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No Agreement on Key 'Open Skies' Issues

LD0405195690 Budapest MTI in English 1720 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Budapest, May 4 (MTI)—The Budapest phase of the Open Skies conference will draw to an end on May 10, as scheduled. One thing that seems certain even now is that the participants will not be able to reach agreement on the details of the contract relating to the free monitoring flights by this date, said Tibor Toth, head of the Hungarian delegation, at the Friday [4 May] press conference.

Mr Toth added that the negotiating sides had made considerable progress in several areas, but no agreement was reached in the key issues.

The Hungarian Foreign Ministry will nonetheless maintain its offer to host the next phase of the negotiations as well until agreement is also reached in the open questions. A decision on the potential continuation of the conference in Budapest is only due in early June.

The closing plenary session on Thursday will be open to representatives of the states participating in the conference as observers.

The leaders of the four working groups also gave a short account of the negotiation results so far. John Nobel, leader of the Canadian delegation, said no agreement was reached on the plane models to be used for the control flights. It was generally thought that the country that would fly the plane should be allowed to select the model. The Soviet Union, however, maintained that the right of choice should be given to the country over which the flight would take place.

There was also a debate on the sensors to be used during the monitoring flights. The participants reached agreement on using sensors that can work amid all types of weather conditions and are capable of monitoring round the clock.

The sides failed to reach agreement on the quantity and precise technical level of the instrumentation on board the planes. There were some countries who said no restrictions should be included in the contract on this point.

Another controversial issue concerned the utilization of the information obtained during the monitoring flights. According to one position, the data should be open to all the parties that signed the agreement. Others say that the information should be available only for the country that carried out the monitoring flight.

The Bulgarian delegation leader Neicho Neichev, head of the team in charge of distributing the flying quotas, said the outline of the mechanism of distributing the quotas and regulating the flights was expected to be drawn up by next week.

At the same time, there were considerable differences of views on the territories the monitoring flights would cover. The controversial question was whether the foreign military bases of the participating states would fall under the scope of the agreement.

Jozef Sesztak, head of the Czechoslovak delegation and leader of the team in charge of flight conditions, said prolonged debates were to be expected on flight conditions and air safety.

The Dutch F.P.R. [expansion unknown] Vaan Nouhuys, head of the legal committee, said the committee under his leadership was engaged in laying down the legal conditions for the political and technical questions involved in the Open Skies system.

BSP Supreme Council Assesses Candidates

AU0705185890 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] On 7 May, the Sixth Plenary Session of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] Supreme Council took place. The participants discussed a report of the BSP Supreme Council Presidium that assessed the present political situation and the party tasks, read by Aleksandur Lilov.

The BSP Supreme Council adopted the conclusion, assessments, and tasks included in the report, and recommended incorporating them in the BSP preelection work.

The BSP Supreme Council also discussed and adopted the proposal of the BSP municipal councils on the list of National Assembly candidates at the single-candidate and multi-candidate constituencies. The BSP municipal councils were instructed to organize the registration of the candidates in accordance with the Law on Electing the Grand National Assembly.

BZNS, BSP Approve Election Candidate Lists

AU0705185990 Sofia BTA in English 1823 GMT 7 May 90

["BZNS, BSP Vet Candidates"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, May 7 (BTA)—The Ruling Council of the Bulgarian Agrarian Party (BZNS) today approved the candidates who will be standing in the elections to a Grand National Assembly. Mr Viktor Vulkov, chairman of the BZNS, told a news conference that over 90 percent of the party's MP [members of parliament] candidates are nominated for the first time. The nominees fall within two age groups: over 31 and under 50 and over 51 and under 60.

The Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) Supreme Council held a plenary meeting today at which it considered and approved the national representative candidates nominated by the BSP regional councils for the single-member and the multi-member electoral constituencies.

Registration of Parties for Elections Noted

AU0705204090 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian 5 May 90 p 1

[Valentina Angelova report: "As Many as 56 Parties and Political Movements Have Been Registered"]

[Text] The Fatherland Union has already registered with the Sofia City Court, thus acquiring the status of a political party, and, as we already reported, it will participate in the elections for the Grand National Assembly. This means that the Fatherland Union will propose its own candidates, but intends to support all candidates who share the Fatherland Union's election appeal.

So far, as many as 56 parties and political movements have been registered with the Sofia City Court, and 35 parties have registered their ballots. The decision on the color of ballots proceeded quite smoothly. Recently, however, we witnessed heated discussions, considering the fact that even the rainbow does not have as many colors as the parties that intend to participate in the forthcoming elections with their own ballots. For this reason, along with the red ballot (of the Bulgarian Socialist Party), the light blue, (of the Union of Democratic Forces), the orange of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union, the green (of the Liberal Party), and the yellow (of the Political Opposition Bloc), color "combinations" of white ballots with one, two, and three colored stripes were "distributed" to other parties and movements. The Fatherland Union's ballot is white with a red and a blue stripe.

The registration continues until 10 May.

Appeal To Celebrate 24 May Peacefully

AU0705160190 Sofia BTA in English 1537 GMT 7 May 90

["Campaigners Call for Nationwide Celebration of May 24"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, May 7 (BTA)—An initiative committee for a nationwide celebration of May 24, the Day of the Slavonic Enlighteners Cyril and Methodius, of Bulgarian Education and Culture, has come up with an appeal to the nation.

"Let us put behind us what sets us apart and seek footing in our common concern for the future of our homeland," the initiative committee calls on all Bulgarians, urging the parties, the political movements and the public organizations and all citizens "to rally behind the cause of Sts. Cyril and Methodius and to avoid manifestations of partisan moods and the organization of political actions."

Independent Union Official on Unemployment

AU0705160090

[Editorial Report] Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian on 5 May 1990 carries on page 5 a 2,500-word interview with Ognyan Krumov, deputy chairman of the Independent Trade Unions Confederation—place and time not given—entitled: "8,000 Unemployed, 66,000 Available Jobs" dealing with the present situation of Bulgarian workers.

Krumov immediately states that "unemployment is the most serious problem" he is concerned about. He further points out: "At first glance, there is no reason for special concern. According to data provided by the labor offices, 68,400 unemployed have been registered as of 30 April 1990, including 6,560 on the basis of Decision No. 57 issued by the Council of Ministers. A total of 4,075 among them were requalified, while 2,316 are already

employed in new jobs. According to official data provided by the employment offices, the available jobs amount to a total of 66,110, and while they exceeded the number of unemployed in the past, they are already diminishing."

According to Krumov, these data do not reflect the "real situation." He mentions the government's intentions of cutting down capital investments in the construction sector and the planned "conversion" of military industry into civilian industry, further complicating the situation.

Asked about the trade unions' opportunities to influence this situation, Ognyan Krumov refers to a series of proposals submitted by his organization to the government on reforms of legislation likely to improve the workers situation. He adds that "several state institutions and political parties are speculating about the problems of agriculture, saying that it needs additional cadres and is expected to offer jobs for the majority of unemployed," but that no precise figures on how many people could be employed in this branch have been indicated so far. Krumov further states: "I am concerned about the fact that the roundtable closed as soon as the political problems were resolved, but no time was devoted to discussing social and economic problems, as if none of the parties dared to assume specific commitments on the subject."

Krumov further dwells on the social aspects of the workers' situation, describing the specific efforts of his organization in trying to provide wage adjustments against inflation, better working conditions, and more "social and economic justice for different groups and worker categories." He also deals with compensation for those working under "unhealthy conditions" and on other social benefits, and with the trade unions' "role of mediator" in "settling labor conflicts," which not only extends to working conditions and requalification, but also to the protection of workers against "incompetent" managers and managers who are practicing "bureaucratic methods" and are responsible for "a bad sociopsychological atmosphere" in working places, and other such problems.

In closing the interview, the reporter once more refers to the question of unemployment, asking Krumov "how the trade unions intend to support unemployed workers and strikers?" Krumov answers as follows:

"One the one hand, the workers are expected to receive the official compensation according to Decision No. 57 of the Council of Ministers. The normative basis of such compensations is expected to be improved so that possibilities of unemployment compensation may be expanded. This will be facilitated by the adoption of a new social welfare law and the Labor Code. On the other hand, the Coordination Council of our confederation decided to establish two funds—one for social assistance and one for strikes. Along with the trade union bank that is still in the process of being established, these institutions are expected to gather resources and create possibilities for compensations provided by the trade unions in addition to the state insurance system. Both the bank and the management of the aforementioned funds will be organized on the basis of consultations with the Austrian and West German trade union centers, which have a long experience in such matters. We hope that all this will be settled by the end of June 1990."

New Criminal Affairs, Public Protection Weekly

AU0805083590 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 6 May 90 p 2

[Text] The first issue of 166—the new weekly on criminal affairs and public protection has appeared. It is published by the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

NARODEN STRAZH will not appear any longer, and it is its newsprint that will be used for the publication of the weekly, whose circulation will be 33,000 copies.

It is our ambition to provide broad information about the work of the ministry and facilitate the dialogue between its offices and the population, Vacho Radulov, chief editor of 166, said.

Plovdiv International Spring Fair Opens

AU0705130590 Sofia BTA in English 1210 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Plovdiv, May 7 (BTA)—About 3,000 Bulgarian and foreign companies are taking part in the Spring Fair in Plovdiv which was opened today. The market economy atmosphere is felt in the enriched assortment of consumer goods and the technologies used for their production exhibited by about 1,500 Bulgarian companies. The products of 120 private producers are displayed in one of the 16 pavilions at the fair. Luxury clothes, jewelry, lighting fixtures—the items exhibited by private enterprises show that their capacity is limited, at least for the time being.

But their ambitions are great. "Until recently we were bogged and with our hands tied at that", told the BTA the owner of the Prolet Company in Troyan—a small town at the foot of the Stara Planina mountains which has century-old traditions in wood-carving. Together with the other private producers, Prolet is waiting for the stabilization of the "rules of the game" in economy to unfold their possibilities for production and trade in wood-carved furniture and other unique items of undoubtedly artistic value.

The fair was opened by Mr. Andrey Lukanov, chairman of the Council of Ministers. He welcomed the representatives of the business circles of 39 European, Asian, African and American countries and expressed the conviction that with the liberalization of the Bulgarian economy will created favourable conditions for mutually advantageous business contacts between Bulgarian and foreign companies.

Mr. Petur Bashikarov, minister of foreign economic relations, spoke about the radical economic reform begun by the government which will ensure equal opportunities for the state and the private sector. The agreement on trade and economic cooperation between Bulgaria and the European community that is to be signed tomorrow in Brussels, the contacts established with the purpose of Bulgaria's joining the GATT, the International Monetary Fund and the World Reconstruction and Development Bank are important steps towards opening the country's economy to the world, Minister Bashikarov said.

About 1500 companies from Austria, Afghanistan, Belgium, the GDR, the FRG, Poland, the United States, the USSR, Japan and other countries are exhibiting mainly textiles and technologies applicable in the textile industry.

Mladenov Meets UN Development Program Head

AU0705185290 Sofia BTA in English 1736 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Sofia, May 7 (BTA)—Mr Petur Mladenov, president of the republic, today met with Mr William H. Draper, administrator of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

President Mladenov stressed that the UNDP is a particularly important institution and that reforming Bulgaria expects both moral and material support from it. Mr Mladenov said that the United Nations Development Program can play a significant role in environmental protection, in market economy and in management.

The sides considered a wide range of questions concerning Bulgaria's socioeconomic and foreign policy and its interaction with the specialized international organizations.

Help With Foreign Debt

AU0705195590 Sofia BTA in English 1847 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Sofia, May 7 (BTA)—Advisers employed by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) will help Bulgarian financiers to manage the foreign debt, to arrange payment rescheduling and to solve environmental problems. Mr Belcho Belchev, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of finance, discussed these matters concerning Bulgaria's cooperation with the UNDP when he conferred today with the program's administrator, Mr William Draper.

Kohl Promises Lukanov 'Specific Aid'

AU0705201090 Sofia BTA in English 1942 GMT 7 May 90

["Bonn Promises Specific Aid Soon"—BTA headline]

[Text] Bonn, May 7 (BTA correspondent)—Dr Helmut Kohl, chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, today received Mr Andrey Lukanov, chairman of Bulgaria's Council of Ministers, who is paying a brief working visit here at the invitation of the West German Government.

Later in the day the Bulgarian prime minister conferred with Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, federal vice chancellor and minister of foreign affairs of the FRG.

After his meetings Mr Lukanov told this correspondent that his discussion with Chancellor Helmut Kohl had been very constructive. "The Federal Republic of Germany gives its unqualified support to and regards with great sympathy the processes of democratization in Bulgaria and the political, economic and other reforms there," Dr Kohl told the Bulgarian head of government. The chancellor stressed that the Federal Republic's commitment to the processes of German reunification should by no means prevent it from assuming its responsibilities as a great European power in the processes of European unification. There is no reason why the FRG should not actively promote its relations with the other East European countries. Dr Helmut Kohl stressed the importance which his government attaches to contacts with Bulgaria.

"Most important of all, both Chancellor Helmut Kohl and the Minister of Foreign Affairs Hans-Dietrich Genscher stressed the readiness of the FRG Government to provide specific aid, specific assistance to our country in economic activity in connection with our debt refunding, in connection with the updating of the financial, economic and trade contacts between the two countries. One particularly important point is the cooperation promised in the long-term, structural reform of the Bulgarian economy along the lines of industrial cooperation, capital inflow and giving Bulgarian industrial goods access to the market here and in the European community as a whole," Mr Lukanov told this correspondent.

"The cooperation agreement with the European Community, which will be signed in Brussels tomorrow, was also on the agenda of the talks," the Bulgarian prime minister said. He emphasized that the agreement will influence favorably Bulgaria's positions in Western Europe.

Mr Andrey Lukanov said that he had invited Chancellor Helmut Kohl to visit Bulgaria. "Obviously, we'll have to wait for the elections in Bulgaria before this visit is made," Mr Lukanov said.

After his talks with the Bulgarian guest, Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher said: "We are interested in the establishment of a peaceful European order under which all European peoples will be able to live and compete peacefully. Disarmament can promote the CSCE process and can achieve stability in Europe. Bulgaria will certainly take its place in this peaceful order. We expect the Bulgarian people to express their political will in free and

equal elections by secret ballot so that a stable democracy could be established in Bulgaria. We are particularly interested in economic success and we will be helping it to the best of our power."

Diplomatic Relations With Israel Viewed

AU0705195690 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian 5 May 90 p 5

[Vasil Asparukhov commentary: "Step Forward Toward the World"]

[Text] No diplomatic relations have existed between Bulgaria and Israel for the last 23 years. Did this affect our interests? One thing is certain: Civilized communications between states is a sine qua non attribute of our contemporary epoch. Morever, it is a grave mistake to sacrifice this asset for the sake of ideological prejudice. Therefore, we fully approve the new step of our diplomacy along the path leading toward Europe and the world. As it was officially announced at the joint news conference given by Israeli Foreign Affairs Minister Moshe Arens and Boyko Dimitrov, People's Republic of Bulgaria foreign affairs minister, the diplomatic relations between the two countries have been restored. We share their joint view that this act helps us overcome an abnormal situation. This situation, which was abnormal from the point of view of interstate relations, also involved some purely human aspects. It is true that our country had no ambassador in Israel for many years, but 40,000 compatriots of ours, inspired by gratitude and respect for our people, were the most brilliant representatives of Bulgaria in Israel.

The chanting of about 100 Palestinians and representatives of other Arab nationalities did not penetrate the walls of the People's Palace of Culture. The high-ranking guest will certainly be informed on the event at a later date. We can understand the feelings of our Arab friends, and we respect them. Nevertheless, the restoration of Israel's diplomatic relations with Bulgaria is not at the expense of other nations. The opposite is true; it enables us to be even more useful to them in connection with the solution of Middle East problems.

Legal Cooperation Agreement Signed With Iraq

AU0705161790 Sofia BTA in English 1513 GMT 7 May 90

["Bulgaria, Iraq: Cooperation in Law"—BTA headline]

[Text] Baghdad, May 7 (BTA)—Yesterday Bulgaria and Iraq signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of law and justice. On behalf of Iraq the agreement was signed by Mr. Akram 'Abd al-Qadir 'Ali, minister of justice, and on behalf of the Government of Bulgaria by Mr. Pencho Penev, minister of justice. The signing of the new agreement opens opportunities for the extension of the two countries' cooperation in the field of law and for the protection of their citizens' interests.

Zhelev-Led Opposition Delegation Visits CSFR

AU0805072090 Sofia BTA in English 2037 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Prague, May 7 (BTA correspondent)—Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, chairman of the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) [UDF], today assured the Czechoslovak press that the adherents to the SDS political platform will win the forthcoming free elections in Bulgaria and that the SDS seeks to secure a transition from totalitarianism to democracy without terror and violence.

At a news conference organised by the Coordinating Centre of Civic Forum, Dr. Zhelev, who leads a SDS delegation on a visit to Czechoslovakia, briefed the reporters on the political situation in Bulgaria. He stressed that "the BCP leadership, which has changed the name of the party and of its daily newspaper, is very promptly, skilfully and quickly adapting to the new conditions. The idea of these changes is obvious: to keep the Communists in power," he said.

In his view the SDS, which has a lot in common with Civic Forum, should retain its unity until the polls and after the election of the new Bulgarian Parliament but should not stay longer than society will need it. In this connection the SDS leader referred to the bitter experience of the Fatherland Front which served as a political cover for the BCP and was therefore reduced to a "political mummy."

Asked about the unearthing of the graves of people shot after 1944, Dr. Petur Beron, secretary of the SDS, said that the results of the investigations so far had been unsatisfactory and that many of the victims, including such who collaborated with the pre-September 9, 1944, regime, had been killed extrajudicially. The SDS wants the truth about these graves to be brought to light not in order to retaliate but in order to identify those responsible for these crimes.

Asked why the SDS refused to take part in the incumbent communist government, Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev stressed that this would have discredited the SDS opposition's standing and that, as the totalitarian mechanisms still existed in Bulgaria, the SDS ministers would have been mere puppets and supernumeraries in this government.

Dr. Petur Beron said that the government which the SDS would form after the elections would be predominantly Western-oriented.

Havel Addresses Federal Assembly 8 May

LD0805133290 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1135 GMT 8 May 90

[Speech by President Vaclav Havel at Federal Assembly session in Prague—live relay]

[Text] Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen:

When I spoke here for the first time, in January this year, I said that in my office, after assuming my post, I failed to find my clocks. I saw in this a symbol. There was no need for any clocks because time had stopped there. Historical time had indeed come to a halt in our office and indeed throughout this entire country of ours. At that time I expressed the hope that both clocks and time would return again to our offices and our country. Although I do not see clocks in this somewhat gloomy parliamentary chamber, there is no doubt whatsoever that historical time has returned here.

Since January you have managed to pass 63 important laws, of which 13 have been constitutional. I believe that not many parliaments in the world can boast of doing so much work in only four months. At the same time you did not pass laws in the manner done by our preceding parliaments; that is by raising your hands automatically. You studied them in detail and discussed them at length. You have spent here a great deal of your time and there were not many who worked as many hours of overtime then as you.

It has not always been an easy task. Some debates were unnecessary; sometimes a debate went astray; sometimes it lacked knowledge; sometimes you examined matters only from the viewpoint of various sectional interests; some of you let yourselves unwittingly be carried away by speaking because the cameras were there rather than because of the need to say something truly urgent.

All this has, however, been natural and could have been expected. We are only learning democracy; indeed we are learning everything. You have been learning to be deputies, and no one perhaps has the right to reproach you for not knowing how to conduct business right away. On behalf of the public, which has sent me to my post through you, I would like to thank you for your work. Although you were not freely elected to your posts as deputies and knew well that you are holding these post only for a few months, despite this you have conducted yourselves as citizens who care about the future of our country more than about personal comfort. I think that future history textbooks should not forget your performance.

We have a long way to go before establishing a stable and properly functioning modern democratic state. We have in effect still to build such a state. Nonetheless, by what you have done, you have laid the first and perhaps the most important foundations for this edifice.

I would like, once more, to thank you for your work. I also thank you for the fact that although you have been criticizing the government of national understanding—as should be done by a true parliament—at the same time you have been supporting it in its extremely complex work, and you have kept your trust in it until your work was completed. Without this trust it would not have been able to accomplish what has been accomplished so far.

This government, as we all know, was born from a revolutionary situation as a more or less improvized result of the roundtable talks; it was born in one or two nights. Many of its members did not even know each other. Given these circumstances it is almost a miracle that this government—and even more so in such a difficult situation—has managed to work as a well-harmonized team and do all that it has done. It has laid the foundations of our future foreign policy; it has created ground work for our economic reform; it has flooded you with a vast number of draft bills. Thus it also deserves thanks. Your work is ending. In a month's time we shall have free elections from which new representative bodies will emerge and will continue your work. I think that they will have something to continue, the ground is obviously well prepared; and if not well, then at least as well as possible given the conditions.

New governments will also emerge from the free elections in a month's time; that is, the federal government and the governments of our two republics. These governments, too, will have something to continue and something to lean on. I am looking forward to the policy statement of the future federal government because I firmly believe that it will contain, among other things, what we all are waiting for—quite a clear schedule of steps toward the prepared economic reform. We do not know, however, what the outcome of the elections will be. If we knew this beforehand, then we would not have to hold them and we would save a lot of energy, time and money. No matter what the outcome will be, however, one thing seems to be quite certain to me: Democracy will win overwhelmingly, and those who have so far shown themselves as the most able and who enjoy the greatest general trust will be elevated by these elections to the highest posts, whether in our parliaments or governments.

Our nations have been deceived for far too long to be decieved again now, when they have a true freedom of choice. I believe that participation in the election will be high and that voters will finally give their votes to those who they really trust. Words, even if different from those used up to now, will not dupe them ever again.

I believe that the new Federal Assembly—if you or some others sit in it—will be a businesslike and team-spirited community, and I hope that the new government will also be such a community.

The two-year period which they will have ahead of them will be perhaps the most challenging and most difficult period of our modern state. In that period three new constitutions have to be created; and in them, as I firmly

believe, the executive power, the representative power, and the presidential functions will be defined in a new way and precisely. I firmly believe that the structure of representative bodies will be defined somewhat differently, that it will be more flexible, more purposeful.

I firmly believe that in the new constitution, the necessary political expression will be given to the sovereignty of our two nations, so that our federation will be defined in a new way. I believe that the constitutions will be brief, clear, and sound, that they will be constitutions which will not need more constitutional bills to be added to them every six months or so.

Another task will be the new territorial arrangement of our country. There will also be extensive tasks in the legislation; several hundreds of new laws will have to be created and adopted. In that challenging two-year period, our political system will have to crystallize and to be created. People will have to learn to be citizens. The climate of true political culture has to be created in our country. In the spirit of the new constitution, I believe that another election bill will be created, and it will be even better than the present one. Of course, in that period the most difficult and most challenging operations of our economic reform will probably be carried out.

I thank you once more and finally that you have laid a few foundation stones for the great work ahead of us. I thank you once more that you have, if not physically then at least metaphorically, returned the clock to this hall. During those few months, from which you have emerged, its ticking has been heard throughout our whole country. Thank you. [applause]

Assembly Discusses Economic, Currency Reform

LD0405211990 Prague CTK in English 1850 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Prague May 4 (CTK)—A timetable of steps necessary for the realization of a radical economic reform and restoration of the market economy should be adopted within ten days, the Czechoslovak government decided at its session here today.

The government paid the greatest attention to the relation of Czechoslovakia's currency to freely convertible foreign exchange, and to redressing the deformed structure of all kinds of prices which is indispensable for creating the market economy.

In order to protect the home market from uncontrollable exports of some items in short supply and to regulate the territorial orientation of Czechoslovakia's foreign trade in the interest of trade equilibrium, the government approved the foreign trade minister's proposal to introduce a system of official permissions of the imports and exports of some selected items as provided for by the amended law on economic relations with foreign countries. This is a temporary measure which will be gradually liberalized.

The government also decided to cancel the visa duty for U.S. and Canadian citizens in trips to Czechoslovakia not exceeding 30 days. This is another step in dismantling the barriers impeding the most important part of international relations, contacts of people.

The government took note of the fact that the Czechoslovak Airlines Company (CSA) will sell tickets for Czechoslovak crowns only on CSA-serviced lines, due to inadequate resources of foreign exchange. Economic organizations will have to pay for air tickets bought from foreign companies in free currencies from their own budgets.

Budgetary organizations and citizens will get necessary means from central foreign exchange resources.

Bill on Housing, Cooperatives

LD0705111790 Prague CTK in English 1019 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Prague May 7 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Parliament's House of the People and House of Nations discussed and approved a bill on housing, consumer, producer and other cooperatives here today, the fourth day of their 28th joint session.

The session started on May 2 and was scheduled to end on May 8. The deputies, however, agreed on May 4 that the joint session will continue till May 10, i.e. also on May 9, which is the country's national day, marking its liberation from fascism in 1945.

The main reason for the extension of the session is a large number of bills, interpellations and other affairs that must be discussed by the parliament. Till the end of the session, another eleven bills, two international agreements and four reports of parliamentary commissions must be still discussed.

The session is the parliament's last meeting before the June 8 and 9 parliamentary elections.

The main target of the law on non- agricultural cooperatives is to remove former administrative barriers in the establishment of housing, consumer, producer and other cooperatives in Czechoslovakia.

The law makes it possible to establish a housing, consumer and producer cooperative in Czechoslovakia without consent of the state and cooperative bodies at the moment when at least five persons are associated.

According to the law, the existing unions of non-agricultural cooperatives, that were made up of cooperatives according to their specialization which limited their independent development, are changed into voluntary interest organizations.

The law also defines the relation of non-agricultural cooperatives to the state. The state will assist cooperatives in case they help tackle urgent all-social affairs. The cooperatives will, however, be immune towards such

measures of the state bodies that will not stem from generally valid legal prescriptions.

Prosecution Law Amendment Passed

LD0705210390 Prague CTK in English 1532 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Prague May 7 (CTK)—The apolitical character of Czechoslovakia's prosecution and independence of the courts is reflected in the amendment to the law on the prosecution approved by the Czechoslovak Parliament here today.

The amendment prevents the prosecution from controlling the lawfulness of the procedure and decision-making of the courts and the use of tapping devices etc. According to the authors of the amendment this issue should be solved by the penal code or the law on police corps.

The amendment underlines the apolitical attitude, qualification and moral qualities of prosecutors. It also ensures exclusive authority for a political party in connection with the admission of new members and the right of a citizen to join any party.

Law on Granting Amnesty

LD0705211190 Prague CTK in English 1623 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Prague May 7 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Federal Government will grant amnesty in connection with offences which fall within the competence of the Czechoslovak federal bodies, according to a law on granting amnesty which was approved here today.

The law outlines the competence of Czechoslovak federal bodies and institutions which have the right to grant amnesty. It concerns offences in the sphere of military defence of Czechoslovakia, passport and visa offences and offences in the sphere of civil aviation etc.

Federal Press, Information Office Abolished

LD0705212290 Prague CTK in English 1838 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Prague May 7 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Federal Assembly passed here today a constitutional bill abolishing the law on the establishment of the Federal Office for Press and Information.

Czechoslovak Deputy Premier Jan Carnogursky explained this saying that in the past the office servied the monopoly of the Czechoslovak Communist Party in the control of the press and other information media and discredited itself by its activities in the eyes of journalists.

The Federal Office for Press and Information will end its activities on July 31, 1990 and will not be replaced by any organization to continue its work.

Sacher on Measures After Intelligence 'Leak'

LD0705162190 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1500 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Federal Interior Minister Richard Sacher announced recently in the media that a leak of secret facts has occurred in the most sensitive of the ministry's departments. With regard to the fact that the issue concerns an intelligence service department, the following measures were adopted and implemented:

—Thirty-five leading officials and their deputies have been recalled from their posts and transferred to active reserves;
—Safes containing all written materials have been sealed;
—Funds which the intelligence service has so far had at its disposal have been frozen;
—All leading officials and their deputies handed in their service cards.

Civic Forum Leader on Screening Officials

AU0705165890 Prague ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY in Czech 29 Apr 90 p 2

[Interview with Jan Urban, head of the Civic Forum Coordinating Center Council, by Frantisek Lauer in Prague on 27 April: "We Do Not Wish To Cause Insecurity and Fear"]

[Text] [Lauer] You commented that a purely arithmetic inquiry indicates that the Civic Forum and the Christian Democratic Union will be the two strongest coalitions in the upcoming elections. Are you not underestimating the until-last-year ruling Communist Party?

[Urban] We feel that this party has not yet shown anything which could be called a true separation from the past or true repentance. I believe that even unwilling as we are to draw too much attention to the past and without scandalizing any of their people, a mutual confrontation of views and attitudes will be decisive, and, in this confrontation, the Communist Party will have nothing to offer.

[Lauer] Nevertheless, in some districts and locations opinions differ. In these places, thus far, the communist conviction dominates.

[Urban] We will see after the elections. That is one answer, and another one? Our information confirms this claim, but it is so only in some places. We are going to concentrate on them. We believe that our program is much better prepared and offers much better prospects.

[Lauer] How do you want to assure that there will not be, for instance, State Security members or its former confidants among the candidates for the deputy posts?

[Urban] We have proposed in the parliament that all parties urgently discuss possible methods of vetting all deputy candidates. This proposal asks that all applicants

sign an affidavit stating that they have never in the past cooperated with the State Security. We, the Civic Forum, want to serve as an example, and we expect all these affidavits from our candidates by the end of the week.

[Lauer] Of course, the present relationship between the minister of interior and his deputies, and the questions surrounding the former State Security in general do not inspire much trust. Did you not mention earlier that these problems were discussed in the meeting with the representatives of the Czechoslovak People's Party?

[Urban] Yes, they were discussed, and for us the things are clear in respect to both the relationship between the Czechoslovak People's Party and the Civic Forum, and the current problems at the Ministry of Interior. I would like to say that we are concerned with the proper operation of the ministry, and not with the minister's party membership or with his person. I believe that on 2 May, when Minister Sacher will respond [to Civic Forum deputy Lis's interpellation] in the parliament, his answers to the specific questions raised in the interpellation will be extremely significant. We do not intend to dramatize the situation any further. We are concerned with the attitude and conduct of the sector. Moreover, we believe that the appointment of Jan Ruml to the post of deputy minister of interior could help to calm the situation. His arrival should definitely satisfy the observation, or objection, regarding supervision of the State Security.

[Lauer] Nevertheless, the Civic Forum proposed that the management of the State Security be removed from the jurisdiction of the Federal Ministry of Interior....

[Urban] Yes, we presented this proposal to the parliament for discussion, and it has two levels. Topical is an issue that threatens the stability of the social development—we consider unacceptable that the leading posts in the sector of the Ministry of Interior are occupied by high officers and discredited people from the former State Security. The so-called internal intelligence utilizing the agency network, so-called collaborators at the district level, must also be eliminated. Our actual proposal to legislatively transfer the department of secret service, whether it be called the Office for Protection of the Constitution and Democracy or otherwise, from the sector of the Ministry of Interior and subject it to the parliament and to the president, belongs to the second conceptual sphere. Our concern is the prevention of a possible concentration of all components of security in the hand of a small group, which would be almost impossible to supervise, and the formation of such a mechanism as exists in developed countries. It is a mechanism in which one component of security checks the other.

[Lauer] Our Friday issue carried an open letter from reader Josef Sysel entitled: How To Keep a Tiger in the Cage. Did you read it? Since it also concerns the Civic Forum, could you comment?

[Urban] I will be glad to because, according to the author, I am among the few personalities in the chair who made him write the letter. Mr. Sysel was disappointed by our refusal to publicly analyze the State Security's personal files at our assembly. I believe that Mr. Sysel mixes two issues into one. At the Assembly, as we discussed the archive which contains, according to some, 140,000, according to others, as many as 160,000 files of people who, for whatever reasons, collaborated with the State Security, we did not have in mind the "normal" personal files of all citizens, as Mr. Sysel obviously assumes. I cannot imagine that the State Security collaborators would now get up and come to collect "their" materials in order to deal with them according to their own discretion. Similarly, I cannot imagine that these materials would be published, because, as Mr. Sysel himself says, their motives for cooperating were of all kinds. We, who came into direct contact with the State Security, know how easy it is to break a person and, on the other hand, how much effort is needed to remain humane and clean. If I add to these 160,000 their children and spouses, then about half a million outcasts would ramble through the country. We do not want that. At the same time, however, we want to prevent any misuse of these materials. Therefore, we propose that an authoritative group be formed in the parliament, which would be entrusted with the securing of this archive so that nobody, except for these people, could gain access to it for at least next 20 years. In the future, this authorized group would also be responsible for ascertaining that the person who applies for a public or a state office, and that includes the army and the security, has clean hands. This group would verify their application or their nomination. This solution will assure society that the state bodies are screened, and concurrently it will assure the others that the files will not be abused. We made this proposal also because of what happened in the GDR, Poland, and now in Hungary, too, where these materials, and the possibility of their publication, gave rise to uncertainty and fear.

Interior Ministry, Border Guard Officials Screened

LD0805031190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Today the screening of members of the main administration of border guards and state border protection and the Ministry of the Interior troops was completed. In the former department, 193 officials were relieved of their posts, 64 were proposed for dismissal due to their incompetence, and 150 officials showed no interest in further service and refused to take part in the screening. New officials, including commanders of border units, have been appointed to leading posts.

Concerning the screened members of the Ministry of the Interior Troops Administration, of 84 warrant officers and officials, 17 have been screened as suitable for service with an objection; 7 were proposed for dismissal. Leading officials of this department were also replaced.

Interview With Defense Minister Vacek

AU0705143190

[Editorial Report] VIKEND No. 17, the weekend supplement of Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech of 29 April, publishes on page I a 3,000-word interview with National Defense Minister Lieutenant General Miroslav Vacek by Josef Tucek, entitled "General." The date of the interview, which took place in the minister's office in Prague, is not given. The minister's statements indicate, however, that the interview was conducted prior to Vacek's 11 April news conference at which he disclosed figures on the Czechoslovak military budget and other formerly secret data.

Vacek is first asked about the reasons for the Army's poor public image. Vacek admits that the Army "has lost its popularity" which it enjoyed after World War II. He attributes this to the harsh conditions under which conscripts have to serve, to the favorable international situation and the resulting rise in pacifism, as well as to the fact that the Army has often been forced to recruit as career soldiers "people without the necessary character traits and with an intellect that falls short of requirements." Moreover, most conscripts get to know the Army "in its most primitive form," resulting in their strongest memory being often that of cleaning the lavatories. They know little about the work of the "higher staffs," where many competent university-educated people work. Vacek asks the public to realize that the Army is not a useless institution but a guarantee of state sovereignty. In this context he says: "In recent years people in the West have had a much better attitude to their armies than our people. I think that our people should ask themselves whether we need an Army. I am envious of Switzerland, which managed to hold a referendum on its Army. Although, being a neutral state, they need not have an Army, they nonetheless decided that they wanted to have one. It is important whether society sees the Army as a wholly useless institution or as a force which gives one the feeling of truly healthy self-confidence, sovereignty, and state independence. Of course, it must be an Army in which the conditions of service are considered to be acceptable. It is my great wish that the Czechoslovak Army, too, reach this position in the future."

Another topic which the interviewer raises is the secretiveness surrounding the Army. Vacek replies that a great deal has changed in this respect "in the last 7 to 10 years." Besides, the fact that some data is still considered a state secret "has nothing to do with soldiers." The minister says that he would welcome the disclosure of the Army's budget, for example, because many people have quite an unrealistic ideas about its actual size.

The defense minister is also asked about the current personnel changes in the Army. He says: "I am definitely not making these changes to ingratiate myself with someone from the state leadership. I am making them because the Army should benefit from them. I am sometimes accused of protecting former political workers. This is not true. I have always been quite frank about what I intend to do with political workers, that I want to integrate some of them in the Army and release others to reserve duty. The political apparatus comprised fewer than 5 percent of all professional soldiers. We will surely agree, as reasonable people, that there can be no collective guilt. Only about one-third of the former political apparatus—from the main political administration down to the political departments at divisional level—have stayed in the Army. The average age of those former political officers who have stayed on is 34 years. They are university graduates whose education is far from being as narrow as many people believe. They can still be of great benefit to our Army. If we have to throw someone out, we had better throw the people of my generation out, because we bear a much greater share of the responsibility for what our Army looks like now."

Other questions in the interview concern the possibility of having a civilian defense minister in Czechoslovakia (Vacek says that he sees "nothing wrong" with a civilian defense minister, as long as he is a "professional conversant with defense matters"); the possibilities of a further reduction in military service (Vacek does not rule it out but cautions that any further reduction must take place gradually, depending on "the situation at home and abroad"); the problem of bullying in the Army (Vacek blames it on incompetent officers and expresses the confidence that, once the Army gets better professional soldiers, it will be able to tackle the problem); as well as Vacek's personal motives for joining the Army (the minister says that in 1950, when he enrolled at a military secondary school, military schools were still "select schools").

Vacek Apologizes to WWII Resistance Fighters

LD0805020190 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1630 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] A festive meeting of participants in the antifascist struggle took place in the Ministry of National Defense in Prague on 7 May. At the meeting, National Defense Minister Miroslav Vacek apologized to the members of the Western resistance for wrongdoings committed against them by our society by assessing World War II only from one point of view. He said the rehabilitation which has so far taken place has not been all encompassing, and went on to state:

[Begin Vacek recording] Only the events of the last few months and the changes which our society is undergoing these days, in all spheres life, bring about truly favorable conditions for putting right all the repressions, injustice, and disgrace.

The events about which we are speaking today have been gradually acquiring their true outlines and scope, as are those who did the most for our lives today, who sacrificed the most, and who had to bear the greatest wrongs. They are now rising to a free life.

Dear Friends, I would like to ensure all those who are present and represent here a wide community of resistance fighters that the Federal Ministry of National Defense and I personally are going to see that our national resistance and all its participants will receive appropriate recognition, full rehabilitation, and a correct historical assessment. Your legacy, the legacy of your struggle for freedom, is going to exist. It will be kept alive in the future fate of our nations and our state by the upcoming generations.

I can assure you that the Czechoslovak Army is intentionally following the traditions you founded. This is in the interest of its democratic developments as well as its necessary preparedness. [end recording]

Presidential Order on Liberation Anniversary

LD0705151690 Prague CTK in English 1338 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Prague May 7 (CTK)—The fact that the Czechoslovak society enters the period of creating a new democratic political system and a full-scale law-observing state was stressed by Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel here today in an order issued on the occasion of the 45 anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

It was in Czechoslovakia where the war ended in Europe, Havel remembered, adding that more than 40 nations and nationalities took part in the liberation struggle of Czechoslovakia. This country recalls with respect the disinterested help of the antifascist coalition states and of thousands of Soviet, American, Polish, Romanian, Belgian, French, Canadian, British and other soldiers who sacrificed their lives contributing to the defeat of fascism and the liberation of Czechoslovakia, the president said.

He stressed that now Czecholsovak wants to keep to the commitments of the Warsaw Treaty as a military-political alliance respecting the sovereignty and the independence of its members and serving as an important instrument of the disarmament talks.

Czechoslovakia confirms its firm resolve to build the relations with other states on the principles of sovereignty, equality and non-interference contributing in an all-round way to stabilizing security and peace in Europe and in the whole world, Vaclav Havel said.

He added that the Czechoslovak defence doctrine, in view of the still lasting division of Europe in two blocs and the great stocks of arms still exisiting on both sides, is based on the principles of sufficient defence, non-interference in the other states' affairs and the will to protect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Czechoslovak state.

More on Appointments, Promotion of Generals

AU0705131690

[Editorial Report] Prague PRACE in Czech on 4 May on pages 1 and 2, under the headline "Vindicated After Many Years," carries a 600-word "py"- signed report on the appointment and promotion of new generals of the Czechoslovak Army in Prague on 3 May, on the eve of the anniversary of the liberation of Czechoslovakia. The PRACE report provides the names of the newly appointed lieutenant generals: Anton Slimak, Imrich Andrejcak, Rudolf Duchacek, Jozef Ferenc, and Ladislav Tomecek. The PRACE report also lists the names of the newly appointed major generals. They are: Pavol Gavlas, Ivan Halva, Jiri Sramek, Pavel Honzek, Miroslav Matejka, Jan Ploc, and Bretislav Nytra, all of whom have held the rank of colonel thus far.

Association for Military Revival Conference

AU0405195990 Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech 29 Apr 90 p 7

[CTK report: "'Revival' Meets"]

[Text] Prague—The first nationwide conference of the Association for Military Revival (SVO) began in Prague on 28 April. Duly elected delegates from all regions of the republic are participating in it. The conference is to evaluate and close the first stage of SVO activity, which had begun at its constituent meeting on 16 December 1989.

O. Bizik, heretofore SVO chairman, took the floor at the beginning of the conference. He stressed that the Army does not make policy, but is its guarantor. The SVO wants, therefore, to stimulate democratization within the Army and to contribute thus to democratization within the entire country.

The nationwide conference elected a new SVO Central Committee and the committee, at its own meeting, elected reserve Colonel Engineer Josef Nemec as the new chairman.

CSFR President Vaclav Havel and Federal Premier Marian Calfa sent their greetings to the conference. Alexander Dubcek, CSFR Federal Assembly chairman, sent a letter to the conference.

Calfa Interviewed on Agriculture

AU0705195990 Prague ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY in Czech 29 Apr 90 p 1

[Interview with Marian Calfa, premier of the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic, by ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY correspondent J. Kurilko in Trebisov on 28 April: "The Soil Still Must Be Toiled"]

[Text] [Kurilko] Mr. Premier, what is your opinion regarding Czechoslovak agriculture, and what direction should it take in the nearest future?

[Calfa] That is an extremely difficult issue. I will tell you straight and frankly that I still did not get into the problems deep enough to pass far-reaching judgment. Nevertheless, the fact remains that the issues of agriculture are rather obfuscated. We give substantial subsidies to agriculture. Of course, the farmers can justify why it should be so. I am not on either side. Our philosophy is to clarify mutual economic relations in order to then be able to help the farmers more effectively than in the form of subsidies. The food production is and will be subsidized. However, we give subsidies without knowing where they go. This, however, we need to know, because our agriculture can be helped by numerous economic operations. The aid does not have to mean providing funds from the budget. We must know what technology, land, fertilizers, and crop farming cost us. We must know for how much food is sold and how it is produced; what kind of losses, salaries, social security, etc. there are. One must decipher the entire economy and then manage it by means of economic tools and not just provide a lot of funds without knowing their effect.

[Kurilko] According to your personal opinion, is the future of agriculture collective, joint-stock, or private farming?

[Calfa] Our philosophy is totally different. We say that we will create the conditions, and farmers themselves will have to know what form suits them best. We will not hinder any of the possible forms. In this context, I have to say one thing. If the land the cooperatives use is taken, we would not like it much if it disappeared from the agricultural use. The land can be withdrawn [from cooperatives], but its agricultural application must continue because the sufficient supply of food in Czechoslovakia depends on it. Great attention must be paid to the food market. Otherwise, we want to create identical conditions for everybody, so they can prove which system will be the most effective. This way, the forms of farming will crystallize themselves. One does not need to order them from above.

Social Democracy Supports Havel Candidacy

LD0705213990 Prague CTK in English 1854 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Prague May 7 (CTK)—The leadership of Czechoslovak Social Democracy decided at its session here today to support Vaclav Havel's candidature for the next two-year term of function.

Czechoslovak Social Democracy supported President Vaclav Havel already at its 24th congress in March and stressed that he is the only personality able to guarantee democracy and the restoration of moral values.

Article Warning Against Splitting Votes

AU0705082090 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 3 May p 1

[Jaromir Juna article: "For Whom Am I Going To Vote"]

[Text] In past years, I thought that when the regime collapses (I had never had doubts about this) I would vote in the first free elections for the Social Democratic Party—it is not important for which reasons. Today my political thinking is strongly influenced by public opinion polls, the results of which are quite shocking to me—and even prove that our people's attitude is naive.

In the first free elections, we are not going to choose one of the many possible trends, but we are going to chose between Communists and non-Communists. It is here, and nowhere else, where the dividing line is drawn. Should the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia win in the elections or should it come out relatively strong, then I would have a feeling that there had not been enough beating and water cannons on Prague streets and that all this had been well deserved.

The election process is a quantum process: For each elected candidate, a certain number of votes is needed. All votes—cast in favor of a certain political movement—exceeding this basic number by a whole multiple, are lost. Every lost vote for a non- Communist candidate represents a relative strengthening of Communist candidates. That is why I am going to vote for such a political formation which will be, according to my estimate, the most successful one because here the losses will be the smallest ones. (I wish it would be Civic Forum!) I do not have opportunist feelings at all. In these elections, it is the defeat of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia which matters to me. Only in the next elections will I formulate our political life more carefully by casting my vote.

I am approaching a second problem which ensues from the first: political parties and movements abandoning the Civic Forum, the creation of mini-parties, and non-participation in the elections. These mini-parties (and absence at the elections) represent a scattering of forces, which again plays into the hands of the Communists—sometimes I believe that they are inspired by them. I have a sense of humor and various frivolities are quite close to my heart. But parties such as the Party of Friends of Beer and Party of the Friends of Sex seem to me to be in poor taste. Our political system is recovering from a deadly disease. Do you think that you can help by organizing drinking bouts and sexual orgies? Why not establish a Party of Political Idiots?

I consider the original Civic Forum idea as ingenious in the sense that it unifies all the non-Communist movements, big and small. This is what it is all about today. That is why I consider the abandonment of Civic Forum by some parties (for example, the Social Democratic Party) as short-sighted and—I dare say—unfair. Do the

social democrats think that it was they who defeated the Communist system—or, was it rather the Civic Forum which made the existence of the Social Democratic Party possible? Does the Socialist Party think that its embarrassing 42-year-long collaboration with the Communists entitles it to compete in the elections with the Civic Forum? I know, they say that they are a different party now. But are we supposed to believe them in the same way that we believe similar declarations by the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia? Are they aware of the fact that without the Civic Forum they would be able to do very little today? This can also apply to other political parties and movements. Some of them are aware of this and are entering the elections along with the Civic Forum.

Only those people who are afraid of the problems which the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia has caused—and which will have to be faced by the new government—will vote for the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. They will vote for them with the fond belief that the status quo will remain, not knowing that such a path leads toward destruction beyond the hope of repair. The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia is, therefore, prepared to benefit from its own foul-ups. I am not aware of a greater political amorality. Can you imagine what end would be in store for a British political party which had political murders on its conscience? Or, let us take a more velvet approach: a party which would lead the British pound where the Czechoslovak koruna is today? Do you really think that someone would like to run in the elections under the banner of such a party?

I have read Dr. Sokol's letter. Its form shocked me a little; yet the characteristics of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia are perfect. I have one suggestion: If the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia affirms that it is a new party and not Gottwald's party (to use their own words), then let them persuade us by means of action.

A final comment: Please note that I am consistently using the term communist system and not totalitarian system and that I am saying 42 years and not the last 20 years. The former two decades were worse than the latter—we somehow forget this.

Dubcek TV Message on Election Campaign

LD0505200590 Prague Television Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 5 May 90

[Text] At the end of yesterday's Federal Assembly deliberations, we asked Chairman Aleksandr Dubcek for a few words about our election campaign.

[Begin Dubcek recording] Dear fellow citizens, I appeal to you at the beginning of our election campaign to offer your help and to particpate in preparing and organizing the elections. I would like our election campaign as well as the elections' organization itself to show our maturity, tolerance, and democratic spirit.

These elections will differ from the previous ones by being much more complex. Therefore, it is necessary for as many citizens as possible to get involved in election-related work. On this occasion I would also like to appeal to our young fellow citizens, who were so active in helping to destroy the old order, to be active in helping to prepare and organize the elections. On this occasion I would also like to appeal to the members and employees of the National Committees to help to form election commissions and then to help their work.

The most important issue for the smooth and lawful course of the elections will be the work of the constituency election commissions. Approximately 17,000 will be created in the Czech Republic, and about 7,000 in Slovakia. The duties of constituency election commissions are extensive. Among them are visits of those citizens who cannot come to the ballot boxes. This means to go to hospitals, retirement homes, and so on.

The commission's main duty is the organization of elections as such and securing their regular course. Constitutency election commissions are the main guarantor of the lawful course of the elections. They should have at least five members each. I appeal to parties, movements, and coalitions to immediately activate their members and supporters for work in the election commissions. The organization of free elections is possibly only with the participation of the greatest possible number of these parties and constituency commissions in such a way that their mutual cooperation and mutual checking of their activity can take place. I therefore appeal to you, esteemed fellow citizens, to make use of your right to work in these constituency commissions. Please do so immediately and without hestitation. The constituency election commissions are to be set up by 8 May. To make the free elections really legitimate, the citizens' confidence in them is necessary; this will be based on participation, on making use of all opportunities provided by the law.

Dear fellow citizens, free elections are the most important test of our civic maturity. Actually, it is quite a new and unknown affair for all of us. Let us be ready for it. Do not throw shadows of doubt on the legitimate course of the elections. Let us all create the atmosphere of confidence so the elections are truly free and so that every citizen has a guarantee that it really depends on him what decision he will make and for whom he will vote.

Our world reputation is still great, and you know that well. We have won it by the dignified, nonviolent, deliberate, and principled development of our November movement. Let us avoid a situation in which this reputation would be invalidated by politicizing and malice between policial parties. Let us care for the interest of the peoples, cities, and villages. Who does not wish others to have freedom does not have it himself. [end recording]

Political Parties Discuss Programs

LD0405211690

[Editorial Report] Prague Television Service in Czech and Slovak at 1505 GMT on 4 May carries a number of political party program announcements over the course of 140 minutes interspersed with music, interviews, and cultural features. The Czechoslovak Social Democracy Party [Ceskoslovenska Socialni Demokracie] describes its program as seeking full equalily between Czechs and Slovaks. It wants to defend the rights of workers and fight for the prosperity of the Republic. It is in favor of a well- functioning market economy. It is against communism and its propaganda. It bases itself on the experiences of the Austrian, Swedish, and other socialist democracies. The party believes the state should exist for the citizens and not the other way around. Social Democracy sees itself as the guarantor of the renewal of moral values. It also advocates good social and health care. The Czechoslovak Socialist Party supports the annual increase of pensions and favors protection of the environment.

The Free Bloc, Svobodny Blok, coalition favors personal freedom and social security. The bloc is opposed to any form of repression and sees as its only enemy left-wing parties that propagate collectivism against individual freedom. Jiri Kotas, Dr. Zdenek Zahorsky, Milan Kalina, and Dr. Pavlovsky are identified as members of the bloc. The Freedom Party program advocates the regulation of some prices by the state, but the rest should be subject to a market economy.

Socialist Party Discusses Policy Aims

LD0705211390 Prague CTK in English 1858 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Prague May 7 (CTK)—A concept of the party's foreign policy aimed at united Europe was formulated at today's session of the Czechoslovak Socialist Party Central Committee in Plzen, West Bohemia.

Party's Chairman Jiri Vyvadil stressed in his address that the one-sided view on Czechoslovak history as an "eternal" struggle between the Czechs and the Germans must be overcome in development of cooperation with united Germany.

In the party presidium's opinion, Poland should be among priorities of Czechoslovakia's interests, but the present agreements will have to be transformed into mutually advantageous documents. As to the guarantee of Polish borders the party unanimously supports the Poles.

The participants described the relation to the Soviet Union as the most complicated problem of the foreign policy. Regardless of anti-Soviet moods in Czechoslovakia the situation is complicated by the equivocal internal political development in the Soviet Union. Nevertheless, the economic contacts with the Soviet Union are so strong that they cannot be broken immediately, the delegates said.

Jiri Vyvadil further pointed out the party's support for the justified demands of some Soviet republics, but added they have to consider seriously the danger of weakening stability in Europe in case of the Soviet Union's disintegration.

The participants voiced their support for deepening contacts with the advanced states, like the USA, Canada, France, Britain and Japan, but at the same time pointed to the risk of an uncontrolled influx of the capital which would lead to dependence on it.

Young Social Democrats Hold First Congress

LD0505135190 Prague CTK in English 1321 GMT 5 May 90

[Text] Prague May 5 (CTK)—Young Social Democrats want to be a modern youth organization within the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party, according to what was said at their first two-day congress which opened at Zdan near here today.

The congress will decide whether the section of Young Social Democrats attached to the party will be transformed into an independent youth organization firmly linked with the party, but being an independent legal subject, or whether it will remain part of social democracy.

A major task of the organization is to defend its members' interests not only within Czechoslovak social democracy, but also outside it.

Present at the congress are delegations of young social democrats from West Germany and Denmark.

Cooperative Farmers Union Holds Conference

AU0705164490 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 29 Apr 90 p 1

["jt, mhr"-signed report: "Cooperatives Will Prevail"]

[Excerpts] Olomouc (from our correspondent)— Almost 2,000 delegates to the extraordinary statewide conference of cooperative farmers gathered in Olomouc on 28 April to discuss the activity of the Union of Cooperative Farmers under new economic and social conditions. [passage omitted]

According to Emil Dufala, chairman of the Union of Cooperative Farmers Central Committee, the union wants to contribute to ensuring that, even under the new conditions, agricultural cooperatives remain the crucial component of our agriculture.

In his speech, Oldrich Bursky, minister of agriculture and food of the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic [CSFR], who attended the session along with the two republics' ministers of agriculture and food, agreed with

the view that cooperative farming will continue to be the dominant form of farming in our agriculture. [passage omitted]

In conclusion, the delegates voiced their disapproval of the CSFR Government's failure to submit the draft law on agricultural cooperatives to cooperative farmers for discussion.

Late at night, the delegates decided to change the name of the Union of Cooperative Farmers to Farmers Cooperative Union [Rolnicky druzstevni svaz]. They approved its statutes and elected its central bodies. Emil Dufala was elected chairman of the Committee of the all-state Farmers' Cooperative Union.

Slovak Parliament on Price Increases

AU0705204490 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 3 May 90 p 2

[Elena Klimesova report: "Prices: Under Preparation Only"]

[Text] Bratislava—The Slovak Republic Government held a meeting in Bratislava on 2 May. A package of documents pertaining to the national economy and the transition to a market economy was discussed. A governmental commission, chaired by J. Markus, first deputy premier, has been entrusted with working out the Slovak government standpoint on these questions as well as on relations between the two republics and the federation in the sphere of the national economy.

The government also approved provisions pertaining to the utilization of noncultivated—or not sufficiently cultivated—land, particularly in mountain regions and foothills, by those interested in doing so.

In connection with the changed conditions in the comprehensive development of the territorial districts of National Committees, the government approved new principles for organizing community self- improvement projects at the level of National Committees (so-called Z-projects). It also noted the report on results of the competition between National Committees in 1989. It also discussed more legislative measures and other questions.

As reported at yesterday's news conference in the Slovak Republic Government Office, the main reason why Milan Cic decided to run as a Federal Assembly deputy on the Public Against Violence list of candidates is that the Public Against Violence movement played such an important role in the November revolution. Besides this, M. Cic has not been interested in running for any other party.

With regard to various reports about price increases spreading among the public lately, Michal Kovac, Slovak Republic minister of finance and wages, said that this information is taken out of the context of the prepared economic reform. He said that so far, only modifications to the prices of cigarettes and tobacco products have been approved. These modifications will be made public during the next few days and will come into force in May. The modifications represent a price increase of 2.6 billion korunas and no compensation measures are planned in the social sphere. The time schedule for further steps will be a subject of discussions by the Federal Government this week. Every price increase, as confirmed also by Jozef Markus, Slovak Republic first deputy premier, will always be announced in advance. For example, in order to allow citizens to exchange apartments or to buy them as personal property, rent increases will be announced six months in advance. The Slovak Republic Government is of the opinion that it would not be correct to raise fares in inter city transport prior to the elections, and that is why this is left up to the new government after the elections. From what we learned at the news conference, it became apparent that the price changes are under intense preparations, but due to differences in opinion (in the Federal Government) and the time schedule for their realization, no specific deadlines are reportedly known. As for the compensation for these reforms in the social sphere, full compensation can be anticipated only when food prices rise. Other modifications will be partially compensated for or not compensated for at all, (for instance, building material prices).

Stanislav Novak, minister of health and social affairs, gave a briefing on the preparations for establishing employment offices and on the new definition for the operation of the organs in the social sphere. He briefed the journalists about the intention to create a new control structure in his ministerial department, according to which the Ministry of Health would again be separated from the Ministry of Labor, Wages, and Social Affairs. This should be implemented as of 1 July.

'Skinheads' Violence Continues

AU0705132290

[Editorial Report] Czech newspapers of 3 and 4 March continue to carry reports on trouble instigated by groups of skinheads in various parts of the republic as well as reactions to acts of violence committed by them.

Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech on 3 May on page 2 publishes a 450- word interview with Captain Jiri Soukup, a police officer from Plzen. In the interview, Soukup denies rumors indicating that "the North Bohemian problem of clashes of punks and skinheads with Romanies has spread to West Bohemia, particularly to Plzen." He admits, however, that "the first organized attack by skinheads against Vietnamese Skoda employees" occurred in Plzen on Monday, 30 April, when a group of skinheads attacked the Vietnamese workers' dormitory in Zikmunda Wintra street, breaking its windows and glass doors. The Vietnamese workers retaliated by throwing glass bottles out of the dormitory's windows, injuring two of the attackers. According to Soukup, the

police "restored order within a few minutes." It also "confiscated four homemade weapons and one iron rod."

On 4 May, on page 1, MLADA FRONTA publishes a 400-word interview with Milan Petruska, a Skoda Plzen employee in charge of Vietnamese workers, dealing with the above incident. Petruska says that Vietnamese workers as individuals have been targets of assaults in Plzen since March but that the 30 April incident was the first "organized" attack. According to Petruska, 20 to 30 skinheads were involved in the attack. Petruska says that there is panic among Vietnamese workers in Plzen and deplores that the information media are doing little to provide an accurate description of the situation. He says that the police and the prosecutor's office should also "take greater initiative." Petruska mentions that, in protest against the attack on their dormitory, Vietnamese workers in Plzen refused to go to work on Wednesday, 2 May. This concerned 420 Skoda workers, plus an unspecified number of Vietnamese employees of other enterprises in that city. The Vietnamese workers reportedly agreed to return to work on 3 May, after being promised that special buses, escorted by the police, would take them to and from work.

On 4 May, Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech and other Czech dailies publish a 100-word CTK report stating that drunk and drugged "punks" sprayed swastikas on the plinth of the Saint Wenceslas statue at Prague's Wenceslas Square on 3 May in the afternoon. The punks reportedly "tried to resist the police," which is why "13 of the most aggressive ones" were escorted to the local police station.

Also on 4 May, on page 1, MLADA FRONTA publishes a 200-word CTK report on an "open letter" addressed by the "skinhead rock group Orlik" to other skinheads. In the letter members of the band dissociate themselves from street fighting and from manifestations of racism and fascism and call for the skinheads' "prudent conduct." They warn that, unless the situation calms down, the band will cancel its planned concerts because "we are regarded by many people as initiators of this war."

Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 4 May on page 5 publishes a 250- word CTK report on an "open letter" sent by the Romany Civic Initiative Central Committee "to all political parties, mass organizations, and churches" in the country, asking them to condemn "the racist attacks of the last few days, directed mostly against Romanies and foreign nationals, which have even led to manifestations of fascism." As the letter warns, a further escalation of these conflicts could jeopardize the democratic development and freedom in Czechoslovak society.

Third TV Program To Begin 14 May

LD0705110690 Prague CTK in English 1026 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Prague 7 May (CTK)—The long awaited international program of the Czechoslovak television "OK III" which will have an experimental character for the time being, will appear on TV screens on Monday, May 14.

"OK" stands for so-called open channel, which means that it will link the program offer of several satellites. "OK" broadcasting will consist of cultural and sport programs, as well as a news service. Sixteen broadcasting transmitters will cover approximately 27 per cent of Czechoslovak territory with less than four million potential spectators. This will be advantageous notably for the inhabitants of larger cities.

The third TV program will be sent out at the frequencies of the former central program of the Soviet television, i.e. on the 41st channel in Prague. Six TV companies which have been broadcasting specially by means of satellites so far, promised to contribute to "OK" program.

All these companies have promised their service free of charge or only at symbolic price on condition that their programs are distributed by surface-based transmitters. All the programs will be sent out in their original languages.

Foreign Service Broadcasts Resume 7 May

AU0805114290 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 7 May 90 p 2

["za"-signed report from the "By Telex, Mail, Telephone..." column]

[Text] Radio Prague International resumed its broadcasts on 7 May. It will transmit its programs on shortwaves to Europe and overseas in the Czech and Slovak languages, and in English, French, and Spanish. The German-language broadcasts will be transmitted only in Europe.

Young Social Democrats Set Up New Group

LD0605174590 Prague CTK in Engish 1624 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] Prague May 6 (CTK)—The two-day first congress of Young Social Democrats, which ended at Zdan near here today, decided to set up a new independent youth organization having firm links with the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party and called Young Social Democrats of Czechoslovakia.

The organization has already established contacts with similar youth social democratic organizations in West Germany, Denmark, Austria, Britain and other countries. It seeks membership of the International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY).

The congress delegates addressed an open letter to Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel and Deputy Premier and foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier calling on them to give support to the recognition of Lithuania's independence.

The congress adopted a stand on the question of activity of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and on return of its property. It says, inter alia, that the party has not yet renounced Marxist- Leninist ideology, i.e. the policy of class struggle and dictatorship of the proletariat. That is why no cooperation with the party can be accepted.

Association of Czech Industry Forms in Ostrava

LD0505215690 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2030 GMT 5 May 90

[Text] Captains of industry from the Czech Republic deliberated in Ostrava today. Pavel Smid, our correspondent, telephoned and gave us more details:

[Begin Smid recording] The outcome of the day-long deliberation, which was marked by many procedural problems, was the establishment of the Association of Industry of the Czech Republic. It associates already now more than 160 organizations and forms one of the two chambers of Association of Industry of the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic, which has also been constituted today [5 May]. The aim of this interest-based association is to create good conditions for the development of the country's industry. To put it in simple terms, the associations from both republics want, on the basis of the views on which their members have agreed, to conduct a dialogue with central authorities to ensure that practical experience and knowledge are not ignored, as has been the case at times up to now in shaping laws in the transition to a market economy. According to the policy statement they approved, the Association of Industry intends to develop its activity on the basis of complete equality of all forms of ownership, suppression of politically motivated government interference in the economy, and the greatest possible business independence of state enterprses and joint stock companies. Miroslav (?Tregr), the current managing director of Desta enterprise from Decin, was elected the president of the Association of Industry of the Czech Republic. [end recording]

Latvian Independence Issue Viewed

AU0505180190 Prague SVOBODNE SLOVO in Czech 3 May 90 p 2

["(ZC)"-signed article: "Looking for a Strategy"]

[Text] Talks at the Congress of Citizens, in which delegates representing the indigenous Latvian population are affiliated, came to an end in Riga on Tuesday [1 May]. Two days prior to the inaugural session of the republic's newly elected Supreme Soviet, this was a blatant political act designed to exert pressure in favor of this Baltic republic's official declaration of independence.

Meanwhile, at least from an external viewpoint, Latvia is roughly adhering to the Lithuanian scenario. Here there has also been a schism in the—to date—ruling Communist Party, which, at its recent 25th congress, split into two wings; one is still part of the CPSU, while the other declared its independence. Just like Sajudis in Lithuania, the Popular Front triumphed in the Latvian parliamentary elections. This front has a clear, although not qualified, majority in the new Supreme Soviet.

However, as opposed to Lithuania, the nationality factor comes much more emphatically to the forefront in Latvia, because the ratio between Latvians and those belonging to other nationalities in the republic is approximately one to one. The Popular Front's victory testifies to the fact that some of the Russian-speaking voters voted for it; however, according to a public opinion poll, even they do not unequivocally accept its clear orientation toward independence.

Sociologists asked 24,600 people to fill out questionnaires on this topic and ascertained that 92 percent of Latvians and 45 percent of citizens belonging to other nationalities are in favor of an independent Latvia outside the USSR. On the contrary, 52 percent of citizens belonging to other nationalities support the idea of keeping the republic in a renewed Soviet federation: this is an attractive prospect for only five percent of "ethnic" Latvians.

It was these very people who convened at the aforementioned congress. As in Estonia in March, only those people who have lived in the republic since its annexation to the USSR in 1940 and their direct descendants had the right to elect its delegates. Of the people who emigrated later, only those who have publicly resolved to apply for Latvian state citizenship in the future independent republic had the right to vote. They only have nonvoting rights in the congress. The congress' participants outlined their aim of reestablishing the former system in Latvia on the basis of the 1922 bourgeois Constitution. They also described the Latvian Supreme Soviet as "an element of an illegal system"; however, they intend to use it to help in the restoration of the former republic.

The division of Latvian society into the majority of Latvians and those emigrants who sympathize with them and a sizable minority of non-Latvians, especially Russians, is intensifying more and more. V. Dauksis, the republic's prosecutor, warned prior to the commencement of the congress that such circumstances are severely destabilizing the situation and are intensifying the schism in society. However, as it seems, the Latvian majority is resolved to force its will on the minority. Another public opinion poll encourages them in this—68 percent of the non-Latvian respondents intend to stay in the break-away republic and more than half of them will apply for Latvian citizenship.

From the very first moment, then, the upcoming Supreme Soviet session will be tempestuous and clamorous. Communist Party deputies on the CPSU platform, the leaders of the International Working People's Front, and members of the newly established deputies' group Soyuz will immediately rise up against the Popular Front. In view of the fact that on paper the Popular Front does not have two-thirds of the soviet at its disposal, during the first few days of the dispute, these forces may well prevail over specific decisions.

In a representative body comprised exclusively—so to speak—of new faces, a lot will depend upon the personality of the chairman. According to some opinions, the chairman will again be A. Gorbunov, who has so far managed to successfully steer through the rocks of rival interests and lead the republic to the verge of declaring independence without more serious upheavals. However, radicals from the Popular Front and Communist skeptics hope that he will meet the same fate as the Lithuanian A. Brazauskas; that is, despite his popularity among the people, he will have to give up his post to D. Ivans, chairman of the Latvian Popular Front, or to another of its leaders.

Although the Lithuanian and Latvian paths converge to a certain extent, each republic has its own distinct conditions. In essence, the main difference is—as has already been stated—the higher percentage of the non-indigenous population in Latvia. It is possible to assume that on 3 or 4 May, the Supreme Soviet will declare some form of independence, but, in light of the acute experiences of its neighbors, it is far from certain whether it will decide to adopt the Lithuanian model.

It will be interesting to follow what the Popular Front, which has already drafted its documents, and the commission with responsibility for preparing measures for the establishment of Latvia's economic and political independence, a commission set up by the previous parliament, will come up with. The republic can give up a nationalistic version of "the renewal of independence" and embark on another road; that is, declare its secession from the USSR according to its constitution and initiate the process on the basis of the recently approved law on the mechanism for the republics' secession. In such an instance, Moscow could not even utter a sound because it is constantly advising Vilnius to do the very same thing. The Latvian parliament can also make use of the offer made by M. Gorbachev who, during his recent meeting with Gorbunov and other officials, promised Latvia a special confederative statute within the framework of the USSR.

'Two-Plus-Four' Talks Prospects Viewed

AU0705195290 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 5 May 90 p 4

[Bedrich Zagar commentary: "Two Plus Four"]

[Text] The first round of talks on German political and military unification and on the country's future statute begin today [5 May] in Bonn. These talks have been given the unofficial title "Two Plus Four," which expresses the fact that the foreign ministers of both German states—Markus Meckel of the GDR and Hans Dietrich Genscher of the FRG—will be participating in them, along with the foreign ministers of the four victorious powers—Eduard Shevardnadze (USSR), James Baker (United States), Douglas Hurd (Great Britain), and Roland Dumas (France). After the round of talks held in Bonn, other discussions at the foreign minister level will take place in alphabetical order, according to the German alphabet, in the GDR, France, Great Britain, the United States, and the USSR. There are many problems—extraordinarily serious problems. For example, where will German reunification lead to; the issue of foreign and domestic military units on German soil; and the allies' rights in Berlin.

From the three aforementioned problems alone, it is clear that the issue of German unification will be a kind of testing ground not only for the new security system forms in Europe, but also for relations between the East and West. Western participants in the Bonn talks have come united in the view that the new Germany should belong to the North Atlantic pact, while the Soviet Union considers this to be unacceptable and views the possibility of Germany's existence on the assumption that both military pacts will be dissolved. This will probably be the biggest obstacle on the road to agreement. The Western allies think they will have to find a model which will keep Germany in NATO and which will be acceptable to the Soviet Union. An agreement on dissolving the military pacts, including NATO, would be acceptable to Germany and the other European powers, but the United States insists on the continued existence of NATO as an "irreplaceable factor" of European security because this guarantees its military presence in Europe. In the interest of achieving Soviet agreement on the establishment of a "greater" Germany and of satisfying U.S. concerns, West German political leaders are willing to provide the Soviet Union with certain "reciprocal services." For example, Chancellor Helmut Kohl has stated that Moscow will be offered advantageous trade agreements and Hans Dietrich Genscher has even said that the Soviet Union could be given a place at the summit meetings of the "seven" advanced capitalist states. However, such "reciprocal services" can hardly satisfy the Soviet Union from the point of view of its own security. Helmut Kohl is in a hurry. He is concerned about the FRG's parliamentary elections at the beginning of December, which he would like to enter into as the chancellor-unifier. Understandably, his electoral prospects would be better with this "title" than they would be without it.

It is obvious that the series of "two-plus-four" talks will not be simple and that by the end of this year they will have barely achieved their aim. A meeting at the highest level of the 35 CSCE countries is planned for this autumn; this meeting should lay the foundations for Europe's peaceful arrangement. The results of this

meeting will also be important for the outcome of the German unification process, which is a sensitive issue for all European states because it intrinsically affects each of them. After all, no one can guarantee that the new Germany will always remain immune to the virus of expansionism which the prewar Germany succumbed to.

CSFR Signs Trade Agreement with EC

LD0705205190 Prague CTK in English 1509 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Brussels May 7 (CTK correspondent)—An agreement on trade and economic cooperation between the European Communities and Czechoslovakia was signed here today [7 May] by Czechoslovak Prime Minister Marian Calfa and President of the EC Council of Ministers Gerard Collins and Vice-President of the EC Commission for Foreign Relations Frans Andriessen.

The agreement will lift the number of restrictions on the majority of products for western markets. By 1995 at the latest these restrictions should be completely removed.

By the end of this century Czechoslovakia wants to be fully integrated in the European Communities, with all consequences resulting from it, Czechoslovak Premier Marian Calfa said after signing an agreement on trade and economic cooperation between the European Communities and Czechoslovakia here today.

The new agreement will lift the quantitative restrictions on Czechoslovak exports to Western markets. By 1995 at the latest all these restrictions should be abolished. The Czechoslovak side stressed the need to develop cooperation in science and technology, in various industrial branches and in banking.

After Hungary, Poland and the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia is another reform country in concluding an agreement of this kind with the European "Twelve".

Marian Calfa who arrived here for a two-day visit stressed that the new agreement symbolizes a Czechoslovak decision to reach a full-scale integration in the European process.

The Czechoslovak delegation signed also a special agreement with representatives of the European Community for Atomic Energy referring mainly to cooperation in the nuclear facilities safety sphere.

Dienstbier, Mitterrand Stress 'Friendly' Relations

LD0705213690 Prague CTK in English 1710 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Bordeaux May 7 (CTK correspondent)—French President Francois Mitterrand met here today with visiting Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier. They stressed that the relations between France and Czechoslovakia are fully normalized and that their friendly character has been strengthened after the visit of Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel to France.

French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas was also present.

The Czechoslovak foreign minister underlined the significance of the official visit of Francois Mitterrand to Prague in December 1989, especially his meeting with representatives of the opposition circles which was an important support for them. Jiri Dienstbier informed Francois Mitterrand and Roland Dumas of the details of the Czechoslovak proposal for the creation of a European security commission. The French president stressed that the Czechoslovak initiative is in harmony with the ideas on the creation of a future European confederation.

Minister Dienstbier participated today also in a round-table discussion "threshold of democracy in central and Eastern Europe". Also present was Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky, editor-in- chief of GAZETA WYBORCZA Adam Michnik and other personalities." Policy depends on information", Jiri Dienstbier stressed and underlined that Czechoslovakia is interested in cooperation with international organizations.

Slovak Officials Meet Departing Soviet Envoy

LD0705125290 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1000 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Rudolf Schuster, chairman of the Slovak National Council, received Soviet Ambassador Viktor Lomakin in Bratislava on 7 May, prior to his ending his diplomatic mission in our republic. In a conversation, the Soviet diplomat voiced the conviction that mutual Czechoslovak-Soviet relations, rid of the failings of the bureaucratic administrative system, would continue to be developed on a new basis in the spirit of Slovanic affinity and mutual advantages. Viktor Lomakin was also received by Slovak Premier Milan Cic.

GERMAN REUNIFICATION

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Eppelmann on Two-Plus-Four Talks, Security Policy

LD0805115690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0100 GMT 8 May 90

[Excerpt] Moscow (ADN-reporter)—The GDR must give the Soviet Union the assurance that it does not stand alone at the four-plus-two negotiations. Disarmament and Defense Minister Rainer Eppelmann stressed in an ADN interview. Speaking on the occasion of his visit to the USSR for celebrations marking 9 May, the 45th anniversary of the victory over Hitler and fascism, the minister said that for him the liberation of Germany from Hitler and fascism could not be separated from the Soviet people's sacrifices. The Soviet Union and its people are due thanks and recognition. "We bear enormous blame, and this obliges us—with a view to the present and future—to ensure that such a thing can never again emanate from German soil, from us Germans."

Looking ahead, Minister Eppelmann said with regard to the two-plus-four negotiations: "We are in a phase when decisive lines are being laid down as to how things are to continue in the next ten years in Europe in security policy." In the talks the GDR must "see itself as one of the two member countries of the Warsaw Pact which are negotiating with the four NATO countries as to what a security concept for the whole of Europe should look like." [passage omitted]

Talks To Continue in Early Jun

LD0805121890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1022 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The next round of foreign ministers talks in the framework of the two-plus-four process is expected to take place in Berlin at the beginning of June. This is reported by the GDR Foreign Ministry today [8 May]. To prepare for the meeting between the two German foreign ministers and their counterparts from the United States, the USSR, Great Britain, and France, a further meeting of experts from the six countries is planned for 22 and 23 May in Bonn.

Skepticism Over Soviet Plan

LD0805122990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1109 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The GDR is skeptical about the USSR's proposal to decouple the internal and external aspects of German unification from one another. Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze made such a proposal on Saturday [5 May] during the 'two-plus-four' conference in Bonn.

In government circles in Berlin today [8 May], a desire to discuss details of this idea with Moscow was expressed, but the danger of Germany's isolation was seen in the project. It would lead to a de facto postponement of Germany's entry into the community of peoples and would make the German problem a European one. This could only have negative repercussions on the pan-European process. Furthermore, it is difficult to imagine a joint German head of government without German sovereignty.

De Maiziere Accepts 'Concessions on Sovereignty'

LD0705220790 Hamburg DPA in German 1742 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—Premier Lothar de Maiziere does not want to risk German unification on the question of future sovereignty. The CDU [Christian Democratic Union] chief said in an interview with the daily DIE WELT (Tuesday edition) [8 May] that unification "is decisive in order to respond to the will of our people." Clearly there would be "concessions on sovereignty for a certain period of time." Maiziere said the time span would be determined by the goal of a European order of security.

Concerning the result of the local elections in the GDR on Sunday, the government chief said he had been surprised by the further downward trend of the SED [Socialist Unity Party] successor party PDS [Party of Democratic Socialism] and the strong vote of the farmers for the organizations representing their interests, the Farmers Party and the Farmers Association. Here his party had inherited some of the conceptual faults of its predecessor regarding agricultural products, De Maiziere said. He also had the impression that trade was being deliberately held back "in order to empty the warehouses for the time after July 2." His government would have to develop a system of imposing consumer taxes on imported products.

On the SPD's draft for the State Treaty, the CDU politician said: "I think what we have been negotiating so far is in the same direction as the coalition agreements. The SPD proposal is also not a complete draft; it is a document to be added to the negotiations, and has been immediately incorporated."

Eppelmann Stresses Need for European Stability

AU0705200190 East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German 4 May 90 p 2

[ADN report: "Unification in Harmony With Europe"]

[Text] East Berlin—Unification of the two German states must take place in harmony with the all-European process. This was stated by Disarmament and Defense Minister Rainer Eppelmann at a meeting of National

People's Army commanders in Strausberg. This process must result in more security for all and more stability in Europe. Our government is guided by this principle in its approach toward all issues concerning security and military policies.

Defense Ministry Contact Office Opens

LD0705231190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1553 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The Contact Office of the Disarmament and Defense Minister was officially opened in Berlin on Monday [7 May]. It is in the former Berlin city command headquarters on Hans-Beimler-Strasse 27. This office is permanently staffed, on weekends as well, a statement issued Monday [7 May] from the ministry explains. It is not for dealing with the affairs of Minister Rainer Eppelman, but exclusively for parliamentary and public relations work and hence does not contravene the four-power status of Berlin.

The disarmament and defense minister is temporarily available in the office on Mondays and Thursdays, and on those days when sessions of the Council of Ministers or the People's Chamber are taking place. The office of the parliamentary state secretary is in the same building.

Defense Officials Favor Armies' Interaction

LD0705230390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1558 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Strausberg (ADN)—Dr. Bertram Wieczorek, parliamentary state secretary of the GDR Disarmament and Defense Ministry, and Willy Wimmer, parliamentary state secretary at the FRG Defense Ministry, proposed on Monday [7 May] the development of varied contacts between members of the National People's Army and the FRG Army. At the meeting in the Disarmament and Defense Ministry in Strausberg, they also discussed the upcoming meeting between Defense Ministers Eppelmann and Stoltenberg in Berlin on 28 May.

Expellees on Creation of 'European Territory'

LD0505194490 East Berlin Deutschlandsender Network in German 1700 GMT 5 May 90

[Text] The FRG League of Expellees has called on the two-plus-four talks in Bonn to deal with the creation of a European territory to the East of the Oder-Neisse line. General Secretary Koschyk declared today [5 May] that this step, directed against the recognition of the Polish Western border, is supported by more and more people. He accused FRG President von Weizsaecker of having made a statement of unconditional renunciation during his visit to Poland. Representatives from the GDR were also present at the congress.

Report on U.S. Air-to-Ground Missiles

LD0605125590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1223 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] Bonn (ADN reporter)—Preparations for the stationing of 389 U.S. air-to-ground nuclear missiles on military airfields in seven European NATO countries are being made at present with the construction of appropriate concrete silos. The Hamburg news magazine DER SPIEGEL reports this in its latest edition. In the middle of the decade, 144 of the modern tactical missiles will be stationed in the Federal Republic of Germany, 33 of them on the Bundeswehr airfields of Buechel, Memmingen, and Noervenich.

According to SPIEGEL, the range of the new nuclear weapon is more than 400 km. The missile could "be started from all current fighter-bombers and achieve the nuclear annihilatation of those targets that up to now had only been attainable with medium-range weapons." A follow-up model with a 1,000-km range already is being developed.

The rearmament plans on the air-to-ground nuclear missiles enabled U.S. President George Bush to offer NATO's renunciation of the modernization of short-range nuclear weapons last week, the magazine writes. "Washington only intends to renounce out-dated weapons."

(The report was prereleased to ADN)

CDU, SPD on Unification With FRG Parties

LD0705214190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1538 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Bonn (ADN)—The CDU [Christian Democratic Union] and the SPD [Social Democratic Party] of the GDR are apparently seeking swift unification with their FRG sister parties. The legislative group chairmen of the West-CDU and the East-CDU, Alfred Dregger and Guenther Krause, reported after an initial talk in Bonn on Monday [7 May] that the Christian Democrats wanted to unify as early as in the next few months. Krause, who is at the same time chief negotiator of the GDR Government on the State Treaty on currency, economic, and social union, said that the unity of the party should take place before the unification of the nation. At the same time he announced that within the foreseeable future the first binding draft of the State Treaty would be ready.

There are also currently plans among the Social Democrats for amalgamation of the two parties. The federal business manager of the West-SPD, Anke Fuchs, said in Bonn on the same day that in view of the process of German unification, which is proceeding very quickly, both sides have to prepare quickly for organizational cooperation. She had already talked about this with the business manager of the GDR-SPD, Stefan Hilsberg. According to Anke Fuchs, the party statutes envisage a referendum in the eventuality of an amalgamation, but there is also the possibility of a sister party seeking "entry".

People's Chamber Commemorates War Victims

LD0805090490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0839 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—In Berlin today [8 May] the deputies of the GDR People's Chamber are commemorating the victims of the Second World War. With an hour of commemoration in the parliament, they are observing 8 May 1945 as a turning point in Europe's history and as the end of National Socialist tyranny and the terrible chapter in German history.

At the beginning of her commemorative speech, People's Chamber President Dr. Sabine Bergmann-Pohl stated that for the Germans 8 May is a day to think about the progress of history. "After 45 years this reflection is not only linked with a look back at four decades of German history in the GDR, but is also a look at the common future of the Germans in a united Europe," the acting head of state said. The GDR acknowledges its coresponsibility for the humiliation, expulsion, and murder of Jewish people, and for the suffering that emanated from Germany that afflicted the countries of Europe in World War II. "Our neighbors should live in the certainty that a policy of violence shall never again emanate from a united Germany, that we wish to live in peace together with all peoples," Ms. Bergmann-Pohl said.

In the morning the acting GDR head of state commemorated the victims of Nazi barbarism by laying wreaths at Berlin-Treptow and Berlin-Friedrichshain.

De Maiziere Calls for Reconciliation With Jews

LD0805135790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1125 GMT 8 May 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—The GDR is facing its history. It asks the Jewish people for trust and holds out its hand to them for reconciliation. This was stressed by GDR Premier Lothar de Maiziere today [8 May] at a reception in the eastern part of the city for the participants in the World Jewish Congress meeting in West Berlin. The premier described the declaration made by the GDR People's Chamber as the first step on a path which would not be an easy one to tread. [passage omitted calling for youth exchanges]

De Maiziere Announces Laender Restoration in '91

AU0705152090 Hamburg DIE WELT in German 7 May 90 p 5

[Detlev Ahlers report: "East Berlin Adopts Domestic Policy Quickly to Western Standard"]

[Excerpt] Berlin—The permanent conference of the interior ministers and senators from the laender convened for the first time in East Berlin this weekend [5-6 May], at the office of GDR Interior Minister Peter-Michael Diestel. Together with Regional and Local Affairs Minister Manfred Peiss, Diestel will present "in advance" the GDR laender that are to be restored. The interior minister stressed that his task is to ensure that he can transfer the responsibilities "as soon as possible" to the laender. He mentioned the police in particular in this connection. The Border Troops, however, are soon to be incorporated into the Interior Ministry, as has been repeatedly announced. Up until now, they belonged to the Defense Ministry.

Premier de Maiziere announced during the weekend that the laender are to be restored at the beginning of 1991. According to reports from Berlin, a bill is to be presented to the People's Chamber in June, which is to be discussed in the summer, to be specified in some areas through required referendums (concerning the land to which they belong, name of the land, and capital), and to be adopted in September.

Diestel stated that he agreed with the FRG interior minister that there will be no intelligence activities between the GDR and the FRG in the future. "If Schaeuble wants to know something, he can call me," Diestel stressed. As far as espionage resulting from membership in different alliances is concerned, that must be settled by the two-plus-four talks. [passage omitted]

GDR To Adopt FRG Tax System in 1991

LD0705222790 Hamburg DPA in German 1601 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—At the beginning of 1991, the GDR intends to adopt the FRG tax system. This was declared by a tax expert of the East Berlin Finance Ministry. He announced that when the economic and monetary union came into force the GDR would first introduce value-added tax, several consumption taxes, and new tax rates. Beginning in 1991 other taxes will be adopted.

Gysi: Election Results Confirm PDS Position

LD0705145290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1311 GMT 7 May 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—The results in the local elections for the Party for Democratic Socialism [PDS] largely confirmed those of 18 March, party Chairman Gregor Gysi told journalists from East and West in Berlin today [7 May]. The results show that the PDS "is anchored in principle across the country in local representations." [passage omitted]

TU Threatens Strikes Over Currency Union

LD0705155490 Hamburg DPA in German 1331 GMT 7 May 90

[Excerpts] East Berlin (DPA)—Eight weeks prior to the introduction of the currency reform, there is the threat of

a series of warning strikes in the GDR. Chairwoman of the trade union federation FDGB, Helga Mausch, briefed Premier Lothar de Maiziere (CDU) [Christian Democratic Union] today [7 May] about the increasing concerns and tensions in numerous GDR enterprises. The exchange of views in the Council of Ministers building came about at short notice after the industrial trade unions sent an open letter to the government on Friday [4 May] sounding the alarm and demanding "an increase of 50 percent in average net pay."

Because a separate meeting by textile trade unionists with De Maiziere did not come about today [7 May], the employees announced a one-hour warning strike across the country for Thursday [10 May]. The state secretary responsible, Lothar Moritz, received the protest resolution but, according to ADN, was unable to make any promises. [passage omitted]

Government spokesman Matthias Gehler told DPA today: "The government is in no way out to handicap the employees." Economic, monetary, and social union remain a joint package. However, improvements for employees and other strata of the population must be financially viable. Gehler said the GDR Government views the result of the local elections as a convincing mandate to continue to work toward the joint introduction of monetary, economic, and social union.

The rail workers' union has also threatened countrywide strikes. The rail workers intend to shut down parts of the system if the government fails to meet their calls for supplementary pay to meet rises in the cost of living. They issued an ultimatum to the transport minster to be answered by Wednesday [9 May]. [passage omitted]

De Maiziere Meets FDGB's Mausch

LD0705202790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1709 GMT 7 May 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—Premier Lothar de Maiziere and the chairwoman of the GDR trade union federation FDGB [Free German Trade Union Federation], Helga Mausch, met Monday afternoon [7 May] for an exchange of views on the present negotiations on the State Treaty. Both sides agreed, government spokesman Matthias Gehler said, on the contents of the talks, that the worries of countless workers had to be counteracted. There had been agreement on working decisively against illegal dismissals and unlawful welfare cutbacks.

On the government side it was pointed out that one of the social measures consisted of setting rents, energy prices, and the public wage rates, even after 2 July. They could only be released gradually, in relation to improved income conditions.

An immediate introduction of the 38-hour week with simultaneous wage increases of 50 percent, as demanded by the FDGB last Friday [4 May] in an open letter to the government, was out of the question in view of the unstable economy the government had taken over and the immense deficit in the state budget.

Furthermore, after the introduction of economic, currency, and social union, the government would no longer be the negotiating partner on wage issues, but the relevant companies. This was in line with the laws of the free market economy, and would accelerate the economic upturn. [passage omitted]

Private Radio Stations Seek Licenses

LD0805022290 Hamburg DPA in German 1833 GMT 7 May 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (DPA)—Private radio stations are crowding into the GDR. Over the last few weeks the Media Control Council of the GDR and the Post and Telecommunications Ministry have received many applications for the establishment and running of private radio stations and for the allocation of broadcasting frequencies. This was announced by the responsible authority in East Berlin today [7 May]. However, at the moment, permission can not yet be granted.

At the same time, the GDR Post Ministry announced that private individuals illegally started a television station in Leipzig last Saturday [5 May], and in Berlin an unauthorized FM broadcasting station has started operating. This is a gross violation of the law on post and telecommunications, which could result in prosecution. [passage omitted]

Hungarian Role Denied in Technology Transfer

LD0705175190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hunagrian 1700 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] The Defense Ministry spokesman has denied that Soviet military technology devices and secrets might have passed from Hungary to the United States. Colonel Gyorgy Keleti, commenting on an article in THE WASHINGTON POST, added that this could not have happened because the Hungarian Army does not have Soviet-manufactured equipment or equipment produced with a Soviet license, which could be qualified as being most up-to-date. He also said that the combat-technology standard of our Army in some cases is 10 years behind the most developed Soviet devices, which, according to the Defense Ministry spokesman, is not solely a Hungarian characteristic.

Economist Gyorgy Csaki on IMF Negotiations

LD0705132990 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 7 May 90

[Report on interview with Gyorgy Csaki, leading member of the World Economy Research Institute, by Peter Marvanyi; place and date not given]

[Text] The IMF is an important source for our debt financing, so at first glance it is welcome news that the IMF is to increase its loan fund by 50 percent, by $60 billion. Peter Marvanyi asked Gyorgy Csaki, leading member of the World Economy Research Institute, if this development is unequivocally advantageous for us:

[Begin recording] [Csaki] The contribution of every member country must be increased by 50 percent. Obviously this will hit hardest those who are large contributors, especially since only one-quarter will be paid in convertible currency. We have to pay one-quarter of our contribution in convertible currency, and we must have three-quarters available in our accounts in Forints. The developing countries, which are dependent on IMF loans, criticized the fund on several grounds. As a matter of fact, the fund was syphoning off capital for a time even from Africa. They collected more in the form of repayments than the amount of new credits they had provided.

[Marvanyi] So this decision by the IMF, plainly speaking, is restoring the original purpose of this monetary institution, which is to assist economic development where there is a shortage of capital.

[Csaki] Yes. We can say that at least the developing countries, which cannot overcome the debt crisis with their internal resources, must be helped with new external sources.

[Marvanyi] You were talking about developing countries, but I think this is also true for Hungary?

[Csaki] Of course, the quota for Hungary is around $600 million. It is well known that we are negotiating for a three-year line of credit. The new government obviously is attaching great importance to this, so it will now have to be not two billion, but three billion [currency not specified].

[Marvanyi] However, there are views heard in Hungary that say what we need is to reduce our indebtedness rather than increase it.

[Csaki] I see no practical possibility for a significant reduction in the level of our indebtedness. As it is, our internal consumption is significantly lower than the national income produced. Several countries, South Korea, for example, were very deeply in debt 10 years ago. They were not particularly preoccupied with whether the debts increased from 40 to 50 billion, or decreased to 30 billion. As a result of very successful economic policies, they now have an annual surplus of 10 billion.

The 50-percent increase in the IMF loan fund offers us very advantageous opportunities, as well. At the same time, it would reflect the progress of our economy, the development of suitable modernization processes, if the Hungarian economy could again raise loans in the customary market manner, on the international money market, and would not have to rely on the IMF loans, which are subject to stringent conditions. [end recording]

MSZMP Protests Abolition of 'Social Debates'

LD0705130690 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] The Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] protested the abolition of social debates as an institution. In its statement, which was sent to the National Press Association, the MSZMP emphasized that with the proposed modification of the law, parties that are not represented in parliament, social organizations, as well as the majority of the population will not have the opportunity to express their views about legislative proposals being considered by parliament. The MSZMP also objected that as a result of the separate agreement between the Hungarian Democratic Forum and the Alliance of Free Democrats, the citizens will not have the right to decide personally and directly in selection of the president of the republic.

SZDSZ's Haraszti Wins After Vote Recount

LD0405111390 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0700 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] The National Election Committee, in the presence of two National Assembly candidates, recounted the election results of Budapest No. 11 constituency and established the victory of SZDSZ [Alliance of Free Democrats] candidate Miklos Haraszti with 16 votes. Legal appeal against the decision is possible, although the candidates had already said that they would accept the result. The decision on the means of settling the Marothi versus Haraszti affair, which dragged on for nearly a month, has been made by the National Election Committee after long debate.

Rival Disputes Victory

LD0405124890 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0900 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] The most recent decision of the National Election Committee that Miklos Haraszti won the mandate of Budapest No. 11 constituency is not final after all. According to Hungarian Democratic Forum candidate Laszlo Marothi, the result is not correct since, when a recount was taken, a good number of new votes came to light and several irregularities were discovered. Marothi told us a short time ago by telephone that he will discuss the matter today with lawyers, but in all certainty he will appeal to the Supreme Court for legal remedy. Because Miklos Haraszti said yesterday that the votes might have ended up in unauthorized hands, he would not regard the election results as satisfactory, even if they were to be in his favor. It is conceivable that voting will have to be repeated, after all, in Budapest's No. 11 constituency.

Departing Agricultural Minister on Future Plans

AU0405145090 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian 28 Apr 90 p 11

[Report on interview with Agricultural Minister Csaba Hutter by Vera Lendvai in Budapest on 26 April: "It Would Be Unethical To Look for a Job From This Chair"]

[Excerpts] I succeeded in meeting Csaba Hutter only after the Council of Ministers session on 26 April. I asked him about his work and his future.

[Lendvai] Mr. Hutter, you were given this position twelve months ago. Hungary was already in a difficult situation at that time. Don't you regret having accepted this position?

[Hutter] I did not think this position would last a year, but now that we are through with it, I have repeatedly evaluated the events and the lessons. I can honestly say that I do not regret it, because I worked as a minister during historical times, during times which shaped the people. I can only be glad for having been a member of such a government. I am convinced that history will evaluate the overall achievements of this government positively. I regard the role played by Premier Miklos Nemeth as particularly important in all this. He worked as part of a team, a team to which I also belonged. [passage omitted]

[Lendvai] There are still people who do not agree with uncontrolled prices.

[Hutter] I know, because their effects cannot be felt immediately. However, the trend is positive. Competition cannot stand libertinism, but it loosens the rigidity of production and marketing. Our successors will have to implement this in agricultural products for foreign trade also.

[Lendvai] Is work at the ministry continuing?

[Hutter] Yes. I do not want my successor to have to start from scratch.

[Lendvai] Will there be a change in the nature of the work at the ministry?

[Hutter] There must be a change by all means. The most important work here will be to strategically deal with production and to prepare laws, regulations, and government measures. A huge intellectual force has accumulated in this house, and we should take great care of it. I do not agree with the dismissal of anyone else, except the minister. In my view, the state secretary should also stay, because the apparatus must be managed and guided. [passage omitted]

[Lendvai] What will you do after May?

[Hutter] I do not know yet, because I have a lot to do. However, it would be unethical of me to look for a job from this chair. I will see how things turn out. Will a good bourgeois democracy emerge in which it will be a pleasure to work? If not, a bolshevik rule might emerge, and I do not want to have anything to do with that. It is certain that I will work, because I have always lived for my work. That will not change. [passage omitted]

Social Insurance Fund Problems Outlined

LD0705152390 Budapest MTI in English 1339 GMT 7 May 90

["Hungarian Social Insurance System in Disarray - An Econews Feature"—MTI headline]

[Text] Budapest, May 7, 1990 (MTI-ECONEWS)—The move by which the Hungarian parliament created the Social Insurance Fund, to separate Hungary's social insurance system from its budget, as of January 1, 1998, has created considerable headaches for the fund's administrators.

While parliament has taken away the fund's powers to manage its finances, there still seem to be a plethora of bodies attempting to administer its spending and this is adversely affecting efficiency.

Although the Social Insurance Fund was formally separated from the budget, the Social Insurance Directorate, the body actually handling the fund's money, is still operating as part of the state budget.

Hungary's social insurance system is directly controlled by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and the National Social Insurance Council, but the relevant parliamentary committee also has a say in its operations, while the Council of Ministers and parliament make decisions relating to the social insurance system.

To make matters worse, the Ministry of Finance and the National Bank of Hungary also have a voice in how fund's resources are used, subject to their daily needs.

The Social Insurance Fund has planned for income amounting to 347 billion forints (U.S. $5.34 billion), while spending is expected to reach 342 billion forints (U.S. $5.26 billion). However, Hungarian companies currently owe the fund 13 billion forints (U.S. $200 million) in contributions and the fund is not entitled to charge more than 2 per cent interest, compared to the 12 per cent 'easy- term' interest the fund has to pay for any loans it takes out.

At the same time, in order to keep the budget under control, parliament has forced the fund to purchase so-called house-building state bonds, which will yield 15 per cent interest, but only from 1991. The budget has also taken out a loan of 9.9 billion Forints (U.S. $152 million) to finance child care benefits, which the state budget will start refunding only in 1992.

Experts say the only way the social insurance scheme can avoid becoming a permanent drain on resources and maintain the value of social benefits in the face of 20 per cent inflation is for the new parliament make the fund even more independent by granting it the right to manage its own finances free of interference from other state institutions.

Nemeth Announces Churches' State Subsidy Shares

LD0705215890 Budapest MTI in English 1723 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Budapest, May 7 (MTI)—'The Hungarian churches, denominations and religious communities will share 1,713 million forints in central state subsidies this year', said Miklos Nemeth, chairman of the acting government, on Monday in the Budapest Raday College, which he visited on the invitation of the ecumenical council of churches in Hungary.

Mr. Nemeth held talks with leaders of the Protestant churches, the free churches, and the Jewish denomination, and evaluated the results attained during his 18 months in office.

Mr. Nemeth recalled that placing the relation with the churches on a new basis was a determining element in the course of creating the legal, social and economic frameworks of the change in system in the past period. Mr. Nemeth characterized this with one sentence: A free church in a free state. This implies the autonomy and independence of the churches, a partnership relation with the state, common thinking and responsibility, and mainly the acceptance and popularization of the values which have been the pillars of the existence of humanity for several thousand years.

Discussing the state support provided to the churches, Mr. Nemeth said: this year, the Ministry of Culture will provide 1,090 million forints to the churches, the Ministry of Social-Welfare and Health will contribute to the operation of the church institutions with 174 million forints. The National Monument Inspectorate helps the renovation of church monuments with 450 million forints this year, which is twice the amount earmarked in 1989.

The government also supports unique church ventures that serve concrete goals. For instance, the government is to contribute 150 million forints to the renovation costs of the St. Stephen Basilica. The county councils also ensure various assistance. Taking all these into account, state support totals more than 2,000 million forints, which is twice last year's amount.

National Council of Consumer Cooperatives Disbands

LD0405203490 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] The National Council of Consumers' Cooperatives, SZOEVOSZ, is holding its national congress. Erika Gulyas was there at the teaching center on Villanyi Road:

[Begin Gulyas recording] SZOEVOSZ, the National Council of Consumers' Cooperatives, has disbanded. Henceforth, its members, the AFESZS [general consumers' and marketing cooperatives], the savings cooperatives, and the housing cooperatives will organize their interest-protection independently, in their own federations. However, they still wish to maintain cooperation in issues which affect all three branches—that is, they are entering into a federative partnership with one another. The picture is familiar, since the same solution was chosen, for example, by the trade unions which once were grouped in SZOT [National Council of Trade Unions].

In the morning debate, the participants listed arguments which are often heard these days and which explain why the members of the consumers' cooperatives felt the change was necessary. Economic and social changes have reshaped the cooperatives' internal relations. Differences have surfaced. Therefore, it is better if the three spheres independently tackle the task of regaining the memberships' confidence and material-interests, and of creating property-incentives.

Of course, as is common at such times, the question of assets was also raised. In the past decades, assets totaling 12 billion forints have accumulated in cooperative enterprises, and a further 400 million have accumulated in the institutions. The National Federation of AFESZS will get 80 percent of this, and the National Federation of Savings Cooperatives will get eight percent.

This afternoon, the delegates at the congress of consumers' cooperatives, which is deciding on the abolition of SZOEVOSZ and on the founding of a federative partnership, will discuss the basic conditions of the new cooperative law, with the attitude that a rethinking of this law must be put on the agenda as soon as possible by the new parliament. [end recording]

Mazowiecki Welcomes Two-Plus-Four Invitation

LD0805081490 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 0702 GMT 8 May 90

[Interview with Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki by unidentified Warsaw TV reporter; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Mr. Premier, are you satisfied with the proposals brought by Mr. Baker from Bonn?

[Mazowiecki] Yes, I am. This is an invitation for Poland to take part in the two-plus-four conference in July in Paris. At this meeting Poland will be able to raise all matters it considers necessary.

[Reporter] So, the meeting will not focus on the border issue alone, but also on wider aspects of European security?

[Mazowiecki] I think that the difference between the border issue and other important issues was artificially exaggerated in earlier discussions. The most important issue for us is a treaty regulation concerning our borders; the issue, however, has various implications, and we are going to discuss everything concerning our security.

Bundestag President on Polish Western Border

LD0705173390 Warsaw PAP in English 1440 GMT 7 May 90

[By PAP correspondent Eugeniusz Guz]

[Text] Bonn, May 7—The two German parliaments, namely the FRG Bundestag and the GDR People's Chamber, want to adopt a common identical resolution on the final nature of the Polish western border. They want this to take place still before their recess and as soon as possible after municipal elections in the GDR, President of the FRG Bundestag Professor Rita Suessmuth told PAP. The text is already being drafted, she said.

In the opinion of the Bundestag president a declaration of the two parliaments will be a significant element of building confidence with Poland. Poland's participation in the 2 plus 4 talks and the border treaty itself are other such elements, added she.

Rita Suessmuth took a positive stance on the idea to set up a joint German-Polish Brigade put forward by Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski. The idea has also been supported by SPD [Social Democratic Party] candidate for FRG chancellor, Oskar Lafontaine.

Skubiszewski, Geremek, Weizsaecker View Visit

AU0705140590 Hamburg BILD AM SONNTAG in German 6 May 90 p 4

[Report on interview with Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski, Solidarity floor leader Bronislaw Geremek, and FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker by Friedemann Weck-Bach-Mara; Weizsaecker interview conducted on his flight back from Poland on 5 May; place and date of the other interviews not given: "Weizsaecker in Poland—A Piece of History"]

[Text] "It is a visit of historic significance." These were the words used by Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski to pay tribute to the five-day official visit by Richard von Weizsaecker. In an exclusive interview with BILD AM SONNTAG, the Polish foreign minister said: "The FRG president has clarified a few things. The unfortunate border debate over the Oder-Neisse line has ended. Now I am optimistic as far as relations between the two countries are concerned, because this visit has created a new basis."

[BILD AM SONNTAG] Has the road toward unification now even been cleared from the Polish point of view?

[Skubiszewski] Yes, of course. I have always considered the division of Germany to be abnormal. This decisive week has added something new: For me and for us Poles it is a source of satisfaction that a statesman of the FRG president's caliber has visited us and said such moving words. Reconciliation between the two peoples has now been implemented to a great extent.

The fact that the FRG president once visited Poland as a young soldier with a weapon in his hand, "does not play a role anymore" for the foreign minister. This is already part of history. During the war everybody was a soldier."

Bronislaw Geremek, the floor leader of Solidarity, was also most content with the visit of the FRG president: "The FRG president is one of the great authorities of our time. His visit is of historic importance for us Poles. He has removed the bad feelings of the past few months, dispelled our fears, and won the hearts of Poles."

The FRG president had traveled to Poland with great expectations. With obvious great relief he told BILD AM SONNTAG on his flight back: "I am returning home with great confidence. German-Polish relations are moving in a good direction. However, this work must be continued consistently."

[BILD AM SONNTAG] What is the advice that you can give Bonn?

[Weizsaecker] That we should not use lofty words in dealing with one another but deepen our mutual understanding for one another.

[BILD AM SONNTAG] What has particularly moved you in the course of this visit?

[Weizsaecker] In the past 200 years, relations between Germans and Poles have been characterized by very strong feelings. In my own family, I have experienced the many burdens that have hampered German-Polish relations. I know how deep the inflicted wounds were. I have been particularly moved by the feelings of the people here in Poland.

[BILD AM SONNTAG] Even when you stood on the Westerplatte?

[Weizsaecker] Of course. In the course of this trip, emotions emerged that affect any heart that feels.

Paper Discusses Peace Treaty With Germany

LD0705120190 Warsaw PAP in English 1114 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Warsaw, May 7—"The peace treaty with Germany has practically become a fact and this is a success of Polish diplomacy. Nobody questions the need for its signing. Tripartite talks of the parties involved most are underway on Poland's draft of the text," wrote Krzysztof Leski in GAZETA WYBORCZA Sunday and went on:

"The Polish draft of the text of the treaty remains secret. However, it is known that it is titled 'Treaty between Poland and the United Germany on the Bases of Mutual Relations.' Thus along border issues, it also must deal especially with the so-called legal succession.

"The thing is to include numerous agreements signed by Poland with the GDR and the FRG (especially the economic ones with the GDR) and not to break-off the existing links in relations with a future united Germany. Not all can be upheld, but prospects are good.

"The 'legal succession' also covers border traffic: Will we be travelling to all of Germany, that is also to East Germany, on the principles applied so far by the FRG? Probably yes as Bonn's stand on this issue is very firm, although Poland's Government equally firmly opposes it.

"It cannot be ruled out that we will be obligated to have visas as well as bank certificates confirming the possession of hard currency while travelling to the GDR after the July 2 German-German monetary and customs union.

"As to other possible provisions of the treaty (Double citizenship, compensations, reparations?) there are many contradictory opinions," concluded Leski.

Polish-German Prospects Viewed

AU0705200890 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 2-3 May 90 p 1, 3

[Kazimierz Woycicki commentary: "Poland and Germany—A Community of Interests"]

[Text] President Richard von Weizsaecker arrives in Warsaw today, 2 May. His visit is long awaited. Originally it had been scheduled for the 50th anniversary of 1 September 1939. Von Weizsaecker is a politician whose political beliefs have given rise to much hope in Poland. He represents a broad stream of German policy that is very badly needed in our joint relations, namely, an openness toward a world of European values and the ability to see the problems of the future. He is endowed with a gift of accurately defining issues, even the most intractable ones, and in this way facilitating the way toward agreement and reconciliation.

President von Weizsaecker has recently repeatedly been expressing the view that relationships in Europe are subject to regular change every 50 years or so. If this is true, does it not also place a burden on us Poles to open a new chapter of relations with our German neighbor?

The policy of the Mazowiecki government from its very inception would appear to stem from such an assumption. The coming days will provide ample opportunity for talks centered on the fundamental perspectives of Polish-German relations. It is worthwhile to underscore certain principles that ought to provide the guiding light for Poles and Germans.

The Polish road to Europe leads through Germany. This thought has been stressed by many politicians and distinguished publicists. The process of German reunification also gives rise to apprehensions in Poland that our German partners ought to try and understand. Nevertheless, Polish policy is based on the premise that the process of German unification is essential for a broad political integration of Europe. That is why Poland sees the process of German reunification as an opportunity and not a threat to the whole continent. For Poland it is also an opportunity to shape a new relationship with the Germans.

Economic questions will play an important if not the primary role. Significant progress in Polish-German relations will only be achieved when the economic disproportions begin to decrease. In a large measure this will depend on the Poles themselves, but our German neighbor ought to show a keen interest in this development and a desire to cooperate and assist according to its own capabilities. A situation in which the Germans might become the advocate of Polish economic interests in the process of European economic integration would give Polish-German relations a completely new dimension.

Polish-German relations are not simply bilateral. German relations with Warsaw (and also Prague and Budapest) have a fundamental significance for the future shape of Europe. Without good or even very good relations between our two countries, it is difficult to imagine the process of European integration. Only a larger Europe can create conditions in which the might and dynamism of the German economy could be harmoniously harnessed to the efforts of the whole continent. This is also a reason why the German road to Europe is linked to the maintenance of good relations with Warsaw.

On the Rhine and the Spree there must arise a consciousness that Poland is the principal partner in the East. The 19th century shaped a different picture of the continent in the German mind. The great German historian Leopold Ranke wrote that the history of Europe was an exclusive reflection of the history of the Germanic and Latin peoples. Today in the West, and especially in

Germany there must be a broader vision of European history and through this an acceptance of a wider vision for the continent's future.

We must accept that the past has luckily ceased to throw its heavy shadow on our mutual relations. The tragic episodes are behind us now and we should turn all our attention to the future.

In this sense, one can risk the statement that the phase of postwar reconciliation has come to an end. We are now faced by the enormous task of breathing life into what Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski called a Polish-German community of interests when he visited Bonn in February.

We have to appreciate just how enormous the work to be done in this sphere will be. It will demand not just good will, but a great deal of effort and perseverance. The last few months and the debate on the final legal regulation of the Odra-Nysa [Oder-Neisse] border show how easily new anxieties arise and how insufficiently low our present store of mutual trust is.

Putting aside all the progress that has been accomplished to date, we are still seeking the right tone of voice and language applicable to Polish-German relations. Legal regulations and political agreements are very important, but the atmosphere of mutual relations, including economic relations is shaped by the appropriate word, by a deeper understanding of your partner, respect for his qualities, tolerance of his faults, namely, all that is called culture and a climate of mutual coexistence. It is these things that will ultimately give birth to trust that will prove to be more enduring than the periodic tensions and fragmentary conflicts.

Let us turn to examples. When there is talk of the rights of the Germans in Poland, it is frequently forgotten that Polish citizens were equally deprived of the very same rights. Similarly, when the Polish side is invited to discuss the subject of the postwar expulsion of Germans it is easily forgotten by some Germans that it was also a time when thousands of Poles were being imprisoned, resettled, and murdered. One can and one should talk about other wrong tones used by the other side. Is it appropriate to paint even the youngest generation of Germans in the blackest terms? Must we always look at things through the experiences of the war? What does turning a blind eye to the achievements of German democracy of the last 40 years lead to?

The road that leads to a converging point for our two societies is not an easy one. The culture of mutual coexistence is only in the stage of formation. Both sides must have the courage to hold an open dialogue without ambiguities and insinuations in order to completely destroy the old stereotypes and create a new form of mutual coexistence of Poles with Germans in a joint Europe. The visit of Richard von Weizsaecker carries the hope that such a dialogue will be initiated.

Poll Reveals Fear of Unified Germany

LD0705120890 Warsaw PAP in English 1121 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Warsaw, May 7—Sixty-eight per cent of those polled by the Public Opinion Sounding Center (CBOS) last February said they felt personally threatened by the Germans while 30 per cent did not have such fears. The poll carried out last July showed only 41 per cent being gripped by such fear and 59 per cent not feeling it.

The majority of respondents (86 per cent) believed the unification of Germany would pose greater threat to Poland.

Although 43 per cent of the polled would welcome the withdrawal of the Soviet military units from Poland, nearly 60 per cent agreed to their future stationing in this country after German unification. At the same time, 57 per cent were against the Soviet units leaving the present GDR.

Forty-one per cent were for the unification of Germany while 40.7 per cent firmly questioned Germans' right to unification.

Shevardnadze Envoy Presents Two-Plus-Four Stand

LD0705185290 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1700 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] The Soviet stance in the first round of the two-plus-four talks, which took place in Bonn on Saturday, was presented today, 7 May, in Warsaw by Aleksandr Bonadarenko, a special envoy of Eduard Shevardnadze and member of the Collegium of the Soviet Foreign Ministry. He was received by Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski. The Soviet envoy stated that Moscow decidedly supports the Polish stance concerning the principles and procedures of a treaty confirmation of the legal-international character of the Polish-German border as it runs at present.

Geremek on Soviet Troop Pullout, Germany

AU0605152890 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 5 May 90 p 4

[Interview with Bronislaw Geremek, chairman of the Polish Citizens Club, by Klaus Bachmann in Warsaw; date not given: "We Will Protect our Western Border Ourselves"]

[Text] [Bachmann] The talks between the four victorious powers and Germany, in which Poland wants to take part, will begin soon. In addition to the border issue, should Poland suggest that other topics be put on the agenda as well?

[Geremek] Poland should be present at the two-plus-four negotiations whenever security issues are discussed, not only when the borders are dealt with, but also when the presence of Soviet troops on the territory of what is now

the GDR is discussed. That concerns Poland directly because the Soviet troops that are now deployed in Poland constitute the logistical background for the troops in the GDR. Here not only historical reasons—how much Poland suffered under Germany—are at issue, but also politics. Helmut Schmidt said recently that Europe's future will in particular depend on the positions of two European countries: France and Poland.

[Bachmann] In his speech to the Sejm, Foreign Minister Skubiszewski said that the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Poland is just a matter of time.

[Geremek] I think so, too. Poland must continue to insist that no foreign troops be deployed in Poland.

[Bachmann] Does that mean that the debate on whether Soviet troops should protect the Polish western border has ended?

[Geremek] That is correct. Either it will not be necessary at all to protect the western border, or Poland will do that itself. I would like the Soviet troops to be pulled out of Poland soon.

[Bachmann] There is another proposal, submitted by President Jaruzelski, that Polish troops should also be deployed on GDR territory.

[Geremek] That is an attempt to internationalize the problem of troop deployment. On the western side, there should be U.S., French, and British troops, and on the eastern side, there should not only be Russian troops, but also Yugoslav and Polish troops.

However, relevant decisions can only be made after the problem of Germany's alliance membership has been resolved. These military issues should be dealt with carefully. The U.S. proposals, such as the one submitted by Senator Sam Nunn, to reduce the U.S. presence, are interesting; we, too, should consider such a thing.

Another interesting concept is Oskar Lafontaine's proposal of a joint German-Polish brigade. What is most important is that these military issues are not politically taboo any longer, but are discussed now.

[Bachmann] Until very recently, there was a controversy between Poland and the GDR over the borderline in the Oder basin near Szczecin. Some Szczecin deputies of the Citizens' Club demand that this issue be put on the agenda again. Could it be discussed at the two-plus-four meeting?

[Geremek] I do not know the contents of the German-Polish border treaty proposed. I do not know whether the treaty includes the sea border in the north. I hope that there will be no ambiguities on this issue, neither with the GDR nor with a united Germany.

[Bachmann] Is Poland satisfied with the present situation?

[Geremek] At present, the legal situation creates doubts; the actual situation does not create any problems.

[Bachmann] You and other deputies of the Citizens' Club have been increasingly reproached recently for supporting the independence movements in the Soviet Union—in Lithuania and the Ukraine—even though a strong Soviet Union, counterbalancing a Germany that is becoming stronger, should be in Poland's interest.

[Geremek] The Citizens' Club cannot give up certain political values. We support movements striving for independence and democracy because we also wanted to achieve that at one time. In addition, we have always been guided by political realism, meaning that we have never supported destabilizing activities. The main problem is not whether we should choose between a strong or a decaying Soviet Union. The main problem is what place the Soviet Union will have on the future map of Europe and the world.

Whether the Soviet Union will be able to change into a confederation where the peoples will be aware of their independence is an internal Soviet affair. While we support Lithuania's aspirations for freedom, we do not forget that stability in this region of the world is very fragile. I hope that the problem of Lithuania's independence will be solved in a political way. It has undoubtedly led to a crisis which has created a danger in this part of Europe, a crisis which may become a danger for the world.

[Bachmann] The international press has very broadly commented on the French and West German proposal on Lithuania. However, to my knowledge, Poland has also mediated between Lithuania and the USSR.

[Geremek] I do not quite understand the position expressed in the open letter of President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl. It seems to me that Poland has made its stance clear: support for Lithuania's aspirations for independence, and the wish that this issue be solved by political dialogue. Poland is trying to do its best to help resolve the problem, and it will continue to do so.

[Bachmann] While the problem of the future Polish president is a domestic policy affair, it does have a foreign policy dimension. At the Solidarity Congress recently, deputies said that Lech Walesa should take over this office to accelerate political reform. In your view, would the reforms be accelerated if Walesa were to become president, and is such an acceleration necessary?

[Geremek] The reforms must be accelerated, and we are trying to accelerate them both in parliament and in the government. However, it is also extremely important for these reforms to take place in a stable environment. Part of such stability is the office of the president—as it is now being carried out.

Poland, Austria Cooperate Against Illegal Trade

LD0505193490 Warsaw PAP in English 1655 GMT 5 May 90

[Text] Vienna, May 5—Following the decisions of the ministers of foreign affairs of Poland and Austria, Krzysztof Skubiszewski and Alois Mock, representatives of customs authorities met here on Friday to discuss cooperation in fighting trafficking and illegal trade.

The sides decided to hold talks as certain number of Poles sell in the streets goods smuggled from Poland, president of the main customs Office Tomasz Bartoszewicz told PAP.

Austrian authorities were considering the reinstatement of entrance visas for Polish tourists but the sides decided to take steps to fight trafficking and illegal trade first to avoid the drastic measures which would affect the interests of Poles travelling to Austria as tourists or on business.

The Polish side suggested the introduction of export duties on goods bought in Polish hard currency "Pewex" shops particularly cigarettes. Another suggestion concerned the renegotiation of the hitherto binding international agreement of 1977 on cooperation in customs in such a way as to allow the customs officers of the one country to operate on the territory of the other.

Expected is also the exchange of attaches for customs between Poland and Austria. Such a solution will be soon applied in relations with the U.S.

The two sides are also expected to reach agreement on the possibility of collecting customs fines levied by a given country on another. The sides agreed that the money will be retained by the country performing the "service". Austria has already signed such agreements with neighbouring capitalist countries and Poland is the first country of Eastern Europe with which talks on this matter are being held.

Polish proposals were very positively received by the Austrian customs authorities, Bartoszewicz said.

Polish-French Broadcast Experiment Outlined

LD0705130190 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1005 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Radio France Internationale [RFI] will be a guest on the airwaves of Polish radio until tomorrow. Kazimierz Piekarec, head of the team, has been visited by Magdalena Winiarczyk in his temporary Warsaw headquarters.

[Begin recording] [Winiarczyk] The conference room of the Polish Economic Society [PTE], a few typewriters, a professional tape recorder, a cracking telex machine, and two telephones—it does not seem much for a radio preparing several hours of programming per day.

[Piekarec] Yes, but behind these doors there is a broadcasting studio fully equipped as such; namely, with tape recorders, a console, and links with Paris, as well as with the Marriott Hotel, where our transmitter and antennas have been installed, and an RFI satellite antenna, which broadcasts in French to all parts of the world and which can be heard in Warsaw on VHF 68.9, which is a frequency made available to us for this period of time by the Ministry of Telecommunications.

[Winiarczyk] What do you want to show Polish listeners during this French radio week?

[Piekarec] The basic aim, of course, is to present to France and show our abilities and efficiency, not only in the technical but also in the editorial and program sense of the RFI in French and Polish. We think that at the moment the interests of Polish listeners, as far as what we can give them is concerned, have turned toward culture, European matters, and economic matters, and we construct our program from this point of view.

We have seven hours on the air each day in Polish. We have brought with us a number of magazines produced in Paris. There are eight of us here who are full-time journalists. This is the team who came to Warsaw. We are also being helped by the permanent Paris team.

[Winiarczyk] Will this be for just a few days, or is it the beginning of more lasting cooperation between Polish and French radios?

[Piekarec] The program with which we have come to Warsaw this week constitutes a kind of offer, a proposal to demonstrate what French radio is able to offer in the area of program cooperation. The offer is addressed to Polish partners, and primarily to Polish radio. As far as the future is concerned, it is difficult to prejudge anything. Talks are continuing, and the Polish side will chose the formula it finds most appropriate. [end recording]

National Military, Security Position Viewed

PM0405155090 Warsaw TYGODNIK SOLIDARITY in Polish 16 Mar 90 p 5

[Article by Colonel Julian Kaczmarek, professor at the General Karol Swierczewski Polish Armed Forces General Staff Academy in Warsaw: "Sovereignty and Security"]

[Text] Every state, including ours, has a duty to ensure the inviolability of its borders and security of its citizens. This duty is also specified in the Constitution of the Polish Republic, which states that we are obliged to "stand guard over the sovereignty and independence of the Polish people, its security and peaceful existence, (...) and it is each citizen's most sacred duty to defend his homeland."

An important role in this respect is entrusted to the science of state defense. While investigating the existing state of affairs, its brief is also to establish the principles

of the functioning of states and coalitions and to formulate on that basis the laws, rules, forms, and methods of defense action programs. This allows us to define the directions, objectives, and tasks of the state (or coalition) in this respect.

The foundations of the science of state defense were formulated quite a long time ago. It was on that basis that our defense system was built—a system which previously ensured the implementation of the constitutional provisions mentioned in the introduction. Actual political and defense solutions influence this system to a considerable degree. In our case, these take the following aspects into consideration: 1—existing territorial divisions in Europe resulting from the Yalta and Potsdam agreements; 2—the division of our continent into two opposed sociopolitical systems (capitalist and socialist); 3—the existence in each system of combat capabilities (psychological, economic, and military) equivalent to those of the other side.

The aforementioned solutions must also include the following provisions:

—the territorial division line runs along the border dividing the two German states, the FRG and the GDR;

—each system created its own political and military bodies (NATO and the Warsaw Pact), whose combat capabilities have steadily increased during the past 45 years;

—peace on our continent has been maintained chiefly thanks to the principle of the balance of fear.

Although these accepted provisions were instrumental in keeping peace for more than 45 years, the question needs to be asked now whether they should still be taken into consideration. Well, it now emerges that they should not. There are a variety of reasons for this, and I will briefly discuss the major ones below.

The first reason is the amassed military combat potential. Its size and extent mean that a nuclear war in Europe would entail the danger of biological extinction—not only on our continent—and even a conventional war would also threaten a major disaster. This means that no rational person should allow the outbreak of either nuclear or conventional war on our continent. However, it is difficult to exclude the possibility of domestic, civil wars (as in Romania, for example) or short-term armed conflicts or blitzkriegs, as in Grenada or Panama. Given a modicum of imagination and reference to historical precedents (for example, the annexation of Austria and Sudetenland in 1938, or Bohemia and Moravia in 1939,) we cannot exclude the possibility of this type of action today. After all, these marked the beginning of the Third Reich's campaign to enlarge its "Lebensraum." Nor can we ignore the many campaigns being conducted today, which are generally termed nonarmed (economic, diplomatic, psychological, informational, scientific and technological, and many others) and which offer the opportunity to achieve political objectives by peaceful means.

The second reason is certainly the recent process whereby the traditionally sharp differences (or, to put it frankly, antagonisms) between the opposed sociopolitical systems are becoming less pronounced. This offers a possibility, on the one hand, to extend the scope of cooperation (in all fields) between individual states on the continent and, on the other hand, to reduce the existing differences.

The next important reason is the recent intensification of the German people's demands for a unification of the two German states. This means that there is a real possibility of the creation of a single German state. However, we must realize that if this comes to pass, a new European superpower will emerge, with the second largest war potential in our continent (after the USSR), on whose territory, according to the Potsdam agreement, the victorious allied armies (British, American, Soviet, and French) are still stationed today.

These factors create a new situation from the viewpoint of international security, and this situation facilitates the formulation of the rules guaranteeing independence, sovereignty, and peace to all European peoples in some respects, but hinders it in others.

The setting-up of parliamentary democracy systems in East European states is doubtless conducive to the preservation of security. The ideological reasons which used to exacerbate the differences between states and coalitions have either disappeared altogether or become seriously diminished and this, in turn, facilitates the construction of the common European home.

This situation makes it imperative to accelerate the solution of the most urgent problem, that is, the elimination of nuclear weapons and reduction of conventional weapons to a level at which no single state can initiate aggressive action; it should only leave a level of forces and resources able to guarantee effective defense, in line with the teaching of the Polish defense doctrine. Consequently, we should strive to ensure that all European states adopt similar guidelines and base their defense systems on those guidelines. The first step in that direction could be made at the Vienna meeting of heads of staff of European state armies, scheduled to take place early this year.

Undoubtedly, the major obstacle to reaching a solution of the international security issue is posed by the German question. Responsibility for resolving this issue lies primarily with the four victorious powers of World War II (the USSR, the United States, Britain, and France,) since they assumed relevant obligations. However, the stance of the states immediately involved (FRG and GDR) and that of the neighbors of the proposed European power must also be considered. For us Poles it is a question of paramount importance.

The most topical aspect of this matter is the formulation of an answer to the following question: What should be done to preclude the possibility of the Germans' provoking the outbreak of a third world war? I think that it is imperative to take suitable steps to prevent such a possibility. From the Polish nation's viewpoint the relevant steps would be of a sociopolitical, economic, and military nature.

After all, life in a common European home implies concern for inviolability of borders and security for the citizens of all states which make up that common home. A common European home also means cooperation and economic assistance. We do not want to become Europe's slaves, nor exclusively its source of raw materials, nor again its "dumping ground." This is because we do not want to be consigned to the servants' quarters in this new home that is now being built. We want to have equal rights and to be able to decide about our future. Moreover, a common European home also means the creation of circumstances in which it would be impossible for any state to keep armed forces, or to develop them within a short time, in a degree which would facilitate aggression. It also means a situation where all kinds of non-armed conflict would be eventually phased out. The idea is that we should preclude the development of a state of affairs similar to that before World Wars I and II or to annexation of other counties' territories brought about by victorious nonarmed conflict.

Invitation to a Debate [boxed note following above article]

We received the text of the above article by Professor Julian Kaczmarek from Lieutenant General Professor Wladyslaw Mroz, commander of the Polish Armed Forces General Staff Academy. As Solidarity exponents, we treat this fact as a signal that Army personnel—who until now actively collaborated in the creating of the PZPR nomenklatura—are now ready to take part in a popular debate on issues and questions essential to any nation: problems of defense and security. For years on end these issues were kept secret from us Poles, even more than from Western specialists.

The censorship phrase "military secret" in effect embraced a whole system of "Armed Forces secrets," both in the military sense—that is, the technical condition and the tactical, operational, and strategic tasks of the Polish Armed Forces within the framework of the Warsaw Pact—and in the social sense, involving relations between Army personnel and subordinates, the training and indoctrination system, and the brutalization of barracks customs and traditions....

In a democratic country there is no justification for the existence of "special" institutions separated from the population by walls and armed guards. Not even the Army can remain such an institution.

The debate should begin from the point at which Col. Kaczmarek ends his reflections. What new European order will emerge from from the changes sparked in 1989? The order of Yalta, NATO, the Warsaw Pact, divided Germany, and divided Europe is receding into the past. However, as long as the transformations in the Soviet Union remain unconsolidated, it will be unrealistic to expect that Western Europe and the United States will decide to disband NATO. A united Germany remaining within the pact and a dismantling of the Stalinist bloc of "peoples' democracies" will change the traditional balance of power. Poland may well find itself between Europe and the USSR in more than the military sense.

But does all this mean that we are returning to the situation which existed in the memorable year 1939? Not necessarily. A variety of possible changes can be made in this situation. One such direction is mentioned by Col. Kaczmarek: It involves nuclear and conventional disarmament.

The question is whether Poles will be the last remaining ganger of the Warsaw Pact or assume an independent stand—independent, that is, of both the USSR and NATO. Is such independence possible here, in the middle of Europe? There are more questions of this kind and it is high time to embark on the task of answering them.

The "Defense Doctrine of The Polish Republic" announced publicly last February by the National Defense Committee contains two messages: on the readiness of the Army and society to carry out their defense duty and on the readiness to participate on full and equal terms in the military transformations affecting all of Europe. But the document contains not a single paragraph concerning the USSR.

Military concerns are still a delicate matter, but that is even more reason why they should be discussed in a debate that will examine all possible options for changes advantageous to Poland. TYGODNIK SOLIDARNOSC invites everyone to take part in such a debate.

1st Privatization of Large Foreign Trade Firm

LD0705095590 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0500 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] The privatization of the Universal Company begins 7 May. It is the first large foreign trade company in Poland which has decided to change its ownership structure. During the coming three months, almost 10 million shares, worth 10,000 zlotys each, will find their way into the market. Everyone will be able to buy them at the issue price of 20,000 zlotys each.

Geremek on Parliamentary Coalition, Elections

AU0705140790 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 4 May 90 p 3

['C'-signed report: "The Coalition Is Bearing Fruit"]

[Text] One of the questions asked of Deputy Bronislaw Geremek, chairman of the Citizens Parliamentary Club

[OKP], at a meeting in the Parliamentary Reporters Club on 2 May, was linked to the functioning of the present parliamentary coalition. His reply stressed the fact that Premier Mazowiecki's government is still in power and is continuing to implement policies outlined in the premier's parliamentary address. This testified to the fact that the coalition's work had borne fruit. Bronislaw Geremek also drew attention to the outlines of this cooperation. It was evident that on some occasions the voting in the Sejm seems to split along old coalition ties and common interests with which the OKP has nothing in common.

Would the OKP go to the parliamentary polls as a united force? The chairman of the OKP did not have a ready answer to this question and made it dependent on the way the situation develops as well as many other factors, for example, the course and the results of the upcoming local government elections. Parliamentary elections could then take place at the end of the first quarter in 1991.

As concerns the OKP's relationship to the government, B. Geremek stated that the OKP identifies with the government and supports and is on friendly terms with it, although at times things do get tense. We are a friend, a critical friend, of the government.

On the presidency, Geremek stated that the present formula seemed to be working well. There is no conflict between the dynamism of the democratic changes, the changes taking place in Poland and the stability of the state. One of the elements of this stability is the president.

In answer to the question whether he would consent to act as premier with Lech Walesa as president, B. Geremek replied that on the Polish political stage two personalities, namely, Lech Walesa and Tadeusz Mazowiecki were already playing and would continue to play a key role.

Mazowiecki Chairs Council of Ministers Meeting

LD0805014390 Warsaw PAP in English 2128 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Warsaw, May 7—The Council of Ministers held a meeting chaired by Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki to discuss how funds earmarked in the budget for structural changes in the economy are put to use.

The government decided that the industry minister would draw up a draft distribution of 3 trillion zloties earmarked for this end.

The government adopted draft amendments to the parliamentary bill on setting up a commission examining Stalinist crimes. In the view of the government, the commission should operate along with the main commission for examining Nazi crimes in Poland.

The Council of Ministers adopted the balance sheet of the Narodowy bank Polski Bank for 1989.

The Council of Ministers acquainted itself with a report on the implementation of the law on upbringing in sobriety and countering alcoholism.

Data on the average consumption of alcohol, reaching about 7 litres of pure spirits per capita annually, put Poland in the 20-22 place in the world.

The government agreed that the law of 1982 does not fulfil its role and calls for major changes and that institutional action is inconsistent and ineffective.

A inter-ministerial legislative team will be set up with the task of working out drafts of new legal solutions in this field by the end of the third quarter.

The Council of Ministers also acquainted itself with a report on the implementation of the law on preventing drug addiction in 1989.

In the past two years the "Monar" drug addiction treatment centres and the health service treated about 5,000 people annually. As one out of 4-5 drug addicts takes up treatment, one can assume that there are 20-25 thousand of them in the country while those using drugs occasionally number about 200 thousand. A slowing down of this phenomenon has been noted for several years now.

The meeting of the Council of Ministers is to last well into the night.

Ministers Discuss Fuel Shortages

LD0805092190 Warsaw PAP in English 0800 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Warsaw, May 8—The Council of Ministers examined yesterday moves to protect cooperatives of the disabled and of the blind.

The industry minister briefed the meeting on the causes of disturbances in fuels supplies which came as a result of cuts in oil deliveries from the Soviet Union, storehouses of the refinery being overloaded with asphalt and oils, and breaks in petrol processing.

Those guilty of negligence were punished, including the managing director of the petrol distributing enterprise CPN who was recalled from his post.

Steps that have been currently taken, also imports of fuels from Western countries, will help restore regular deliveries throughout Poland. The minister said.

PAP Reports on Gasoline Shortages

LD0705172790 Warsaw PAP in English 1608 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Warsaw, Bonn, May 7—In recent days the situation at Polish petrol stations has not changed and there are still shortages of petrol. In April a refinery in Plock, central Poland, did not supply 22 thousand tonnes while the one in the coastal city of Gdansk did not supply 7.5

thousand tonnes. What is more, in the same month the Soviet Union did not deliver 10 thousand tonnes.

As concerns the Plock refinery, it had to close one of its destillation towers. In turn, in Gdansk the factoray stopped production because of a routine repair of petrol production equipment. As for the Soviet partner, the reasons for its unreliability are general problems in its economy and trade with Poland.

However, the situation may improve shortly as a tanker carrying 20 thousand tonnes of the fuel has already reached the Gdansk port. Between May 15 and 20 Poland expects a tanker carrying; 18 thousand tonnes of petrol, most probably from England. On May 12 some 7 thousand tonnes of the fuel are expected to be transported to this country from Norway. Also, negotiations are underway between the Polish "Ciech" foreign trade company and other West European partners.

Meanwhile, the Hamburg branch of the Esso concern signed a contract with a Polish private entrepreneur on the delivery of petrol to Poland. [Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish at 1400 GMT on 7 May carries a similar report which adds: "The minister of industry has recalled Jerzy Szewczyk from the post of director of the Petroleum Products Center."]

Mazowiecki Addresses Plock Rally

LD0605223990 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2115 GMT 6 May 90

[Marek Kassa report on speech by Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki at Citizens Committee Solidarity preelection rally in Plock on 6 May]

[Excerpts] Today's visit by the premier to his hometown was not a coincidence. Today there was a celebration of the day of the patron saint of Plock, St. Zygmunt. For several years, the working people have made a traditional pilgrimage to the cathedral. Today the premier also arrived, as well as the apostolic nuncio, Archbishop Jozef Kowalczyk, and a group of government officials and a group of Sejm deputies and senators. [passage omitted] The culmination of the stay in Plock was a preelection rally of the Citizens Committee Solidarity.

Speaking to the participants in the rally the Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki, said, among other things:

[Begin Mazowiecki recording] Dear ladies and gentlemen, dear friends. I am looking at you, and this beautiful green place, the colorful images that can be seen, and a thought comes to mind: They write about us abroad that Poles are approving the transformations but are not very merry because of them.

A thought comes to me on this joyful sunny day: We have the right to be joyful, Poland is free and independent. [applause] We can manage Poland by ourselves. This will not be easy, the the success will be everyone's responsibility.

That is why I encourage everyone on this sunny day: let us not be morbid, let us be pleased with what we have already achieved. [applause]

These self-government elections are the laying down of foundations for our democracy. Sometimes it is said that others are ahead of us. I do not have such a complex because nobody anywhere in the countries where the transformations are taking place has held elections for local authorities.

We are building from the foundations, so we must build these foundations well. It is up to you to build good strong foundations. I am very pleased with what I have heard about the activity of Plock and the voivodship, and I hope that by the 27th [date of elections] this activity will increase.

Perhaps someone may think these elections are not seen well enough; they are not seen yet on posters. There are probably not enough radio programs on this subject, nor enough press articles. All this must now be intensified.

That is because there should be no one who has not heard about the importance of that day, about the issue to be decided. We will not decide just yet on the outcome of another election to people's councils, this time our elections, but we will decide about the return of the authentic self-government, that is the structure in which local matters are decided on by the residents of parishes who can get themselves involved and who know the no one is going to waste their work and commitment later on.

These are not to be self-governments that will be in conflict with the state organs. We are also renewing the state organs. From the beginning we spoke about the road we chose as not being easy because our heritage is so difficult.

We had to overcome difficulties in a situation of hyperinflation. The first task was to stop this inflation. I think that this to a significant degree has already occurred.

But we still have to take care, so as not to slacken them too early, as similar reforms in difficult situations in other countries collapsed precisely, when certain thresholds were abandoned too early. Please understand, we are concerned that these several months of great patience by Poles, for whom I have the highest respect, should not be wasted. If we were to spoil what we have achieved during those months, the stopping of inflation, it would be a waste of that great patience and a return to square one or even worse.

But our task is also to distribute (?products) to change economic structures to a great degree by privatization, but not only by it, as state enterprises must also gain a new vitality; they must be interested in what they are producing. If things are difficult, I would like to say that this is not yet another persuasion only for the work of future generations. An improvement of the situation, so that we can all (?and those living now) feel improvement

is possible. It will not be immediate but it is possible, and are moving toward that. [applause]

On 27 May there will be support for what we have already done and for what we intend to do. That is why no one should fail to be at the local government election ballot boxes. I believe Plock and the Plock Voivodship will not fail in this matter. [applause] [end recording]

Polish Peasant Party Holds Unity Congress

President Calls for Cooperation

LD0505133190 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1200 GMT 5 May 90

[Excerpts] The Polish Peasant Party [PSL] Unity Congress is continuing its deliberations, despite suggestions that they should be postponed,. Only an hour and a half ago, the presidents of PSL-Rebirth and the PSL—Kazimierz Olesiak and General Franciszek Kaminski—made their appearance. [passage omitted on minor speakers]

Next to take the floor was General Franciszek Kaminski, president of the PSL. Peasants have always been faithful to God and the homeland. They lived in poverty and were downtrodden, but when the homeland was in danger they defended it. During World War II, they formed an immense armed and political force. After the war, the PSL was the only one to oppose the evil which (?came) from the East. You are the only stratum which did not submit to communism, General Kaminski went on to tell the delegates. You are the only stratum which is not burdened by accusations of cooperation with forces hostile to the homeland. The peasants have been the source of the great forces of the nation which now have the greatest influence in our country: politicians, generals, and bishops.

The peasants are the fundamental and most numerous stratum of society and for that reason Poland should build its future on this foundation. For that reason, the peasants should shed their inferiority complex and [word indistinct]. Your affairs are now in your own hands, General Kaminski urged, coming out in favor of total unity of the peasant movement. The peasants are a great independent force, but they must cooperate with other forces in running the country, General Franciszek Kaminski said in conclusion, appealing once again for unity. His speech was given a great ovation. [passage omitted on further speakers]

Resolution Unifies PSL Groups

LD0505163290 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1400 GMT 5 May 90

[Excerpts] [Announcer] The unification congress of the peasant movement is in progress in the main hall of Warsaw's Technical University. Over to our reporter:

[Unidentified reporter] At the moment the hall is emptying. There is a break in the deliberations of the PSL [Polish Peasants Party] Unity Congress until 1630. [passage omitted]

We ended our previous report as Kazimierz Olesiak was speaking, he is chairman of PSL-Rebirth. Nothing I have done up to now has weaked the peasant movement, he said. Olesiak went on to criticize recent personal infighting in the movement. We cannot go into another satellite line-up this time, as happened in the past, and sell ourselves to one political force. Despite appearances, such dangers still exist. I think, Olesiak concluded, that the president of the united PSL should be none other than Franciszek Kaminski. This speech was rewarded with a thunderous standing ovation from delegates. [passage omitted]

The congress adopted—after discussion and amendments—a resolution on the unification of the two strands of the peasant movement: The PSL and PSL-Rebirth and the representatives of PSL-Solidarity from six voivodships. The Polish Peasant Party is the continuation of the PSL which was formed in 1946, we read in the resolution. The present PSL retains the right to the assets of the PSL of 44 years ago. The resolution stresses that today's congress is an expression of the process of unity of the political peasant movement. It must be pointed out here that outside the PSL, united today, other peasant movement organizations are active, including PSL-Solidarity. After passing the resolution, the delegates sang the Rota [patriotic hymn] and almost all of them joined hands at that moment. [passage omitted]

The temperature of the deliberations rose violently when candidates were put forward for PSL leadership positions. First, it was proposed that General Franciszek Kaminski should be honorary president of the PSL. This met with an ovation, but the congress chairman said that General Kaminski didn't want to accept this proposal.

Candidates for chairman of the PSL Supreme Council are: Jozef Zych, Wladislaw Zabinski, and Roman Jagiellinski . Kazimierz Olesiak refused to stand.

Three persons are candidates for the post of president of the Supreme Executive Committee: Roman Bartoszcze and Edward Kaleta. After his candidacy had been put forward several times, General Franciszek Kaminski also agreed to stand for president.

Emotions have now quieted down, as we have said. The results of the voting will be known later. There is now a break until 1630 and heated conversations are going on in the corridors.

Leaders Elected; Jaruzelski Sends Letter

LD0605204190 Warsaw PAP in English 1900 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] Warsaw, May 6—Delegations of the PSL and PSL "Odrodzenie" [PSL-O] Polish peasant parties as well as

delegations of the PSL "Solidarnosc" from some voivodships, decided at their Unity Congress today to combine, forming the Polskie Stronnictwo Ludowe (Polish Peasant Party) which is to preserve and continue the identity of the PSL of 1946.

A resolution adopted at the congress stresses that it is an act of unity of a political national movement and expresses a will to swiftly include the PSL "Solidarnosc" and other rural political organizations into this process.

New Leadership

Roman Jagielinski was elected chairman of the main council and Roman Bartoszcze the PSL's President. Gen. Franciszek Kaminski was elected the honorary president. He was the commander of the peasant battalions during World War Two and the president of the so-called Wilanowski PSL.

It turned out during the debates that the presidents of the two peasant parties about to combine were not present in the debate [words indistinct] Gen. Kaminski of the "Wilanowskie" PSL and Kazimierz Olesiak of the PSL "Odrodzenie" did however arrive after being visited by a delegation of the congress.

"I wanted the road to the congress to be somewhat different, for the congress to become a great holiday of the whole Polish countryside and be acknowledged by everyone. The most important matter, however, is that we have finally arrived at some unity," stated Gen. Kaminski.

"Attempts to break up our party and weaken it have failed. Today we are the most numerous and structurally strongest political party in the countryside. We have a tremendous chance to become a fully independent party, bearing real impact not only on the countryside and peasants but the whole nation as well. We must not waste this chance," stated Olesiak.

The address of Bishop Roman Andrzejewski who is in charge of pastoral service for farmers, was received with great attention. The bishop expressed joy that the PSL wants to base its activity on Catholic social thought with a view to ensuring respect for human dignity, natural environment and national community.

The congress focused almost exclusively on issues of unity without tackling the party's program, although Bartoszcze stressed that "the PSL's program must be drawn up quickly."

Among the guests were Sejm Speaker Mikolaj Kozakiewicz, members of the government, Vice Premier Czeslaw Janicki, Chairman of Rural Solidarnosc Gabriel Janowski, and representatives of various parties and groups.

President's Letter

President Wojciech Jaruzelski sent a letter to the delegates of the congress. Jaruzelski wrote in part:

"The peasant's traditional law abidingness, hard work and ability to sacrifice for the country should find expression in a strong peasant party. I doubt not that it will be an important factor of systemic reforms, reforms of parliamentary democracy, political culture, and development of the spiritual life of our society.

"The current situation of farmers, like other social groups, is difficult. I believe that those difficulties are transitional. How long they last hinges to a large degree on the will and efforts of the united peasant movement, socio-political structures, local government, and all working people. [no close quotation mark as received]

Election Results

In a secret ballot, Bartoszcze received 387 votes (over 51 percent of valid votes), Kaminski: 276, Kaleta: 69. In a second round of voting, Jagielinski won 378 votes, followed by Jozef Zych: 331 votes.

The congress adopted the PSL's statutes. They are based on prewar statutes, the PSL's statutes of 1946 and documents of the PSL and PSL-O from before the congress.

Congress' Documents

In a resolution addressed to PSL members abroad, the congress thanks them for continuing the PSL's operation abroad in the period of the nation's enslavement, for cultivating peasant and national traditons, for maintaining ties with the fatherland and endorsing freedom strivings.

In a message to peasant and peasant activists from central European countries, the congress states that PSL members, in cooperating with all democratic forces, want to build a state and society based on rational, liberal-democratic principles.

The congress backed the initiative of setting up a foundation for the development of Polish farming named after Stanislaw Mikolajczyk and other social and local foundations which will gather necessary funds in Poland and abroad for important economic investment projects.

Student Leader Criticizes Education Bill

AU2704140190 Warsaw TRYBUNA in Polish 24 Apr 90 p 2

[Interview with Marek Jozefiak, chairman of the Polish Students Association, by Ewa Wieckowska; place and date not given: "A Repetition of History"]

[Text] [Wieckowska] Colleges have been waiting for a modern constitution for a long time, but the bill on national education that has just reached the Sejm does not seem to satisfy students' hopes. The Polish Students Association [ZSP] has begun a nationwide protest, including strikes. Is that the way you are trying to save your own skins?

[Jozefiak] We are not criticizing the education bill in order to safeguard the ZSP. The problem is broader than that. We are defending the interests of all students, who have the right to take part in the making of decisions that concern them, especially on the subject of their living conditions. According to the new law, not even the national federation of student unions will be able to do anything more than give an opinion on ministerial decisions on the subject of students, which means that the Ministry of National Education will be able to make decisions concerning students even though the students disapprove of them.

[Wieckowska] So you assume the ministry is ill-disposed toward you?

[Jozefiak] We believe the minister has the best of intentions. Nevertheless, the Independent Students Association and Polish Students Associations will lose their present right to be a component of relationships between college boards and the ministry. It will take years before the national federation can become a real force, a representation of all students, so until then college boards can do what they want in any case. Good intentions by the minister are useless in such a situation. That is why we have started to shout loudly and demand to be heard.

[Wieckowska] You accuse the authors of the bill of making the life of colleges more democratic by giving teaching staff greater powers, instead of the students.

[Jozefiak] We are full of respect for teaching staff but, in order to preserve a proper balance between all the social elements represented in college boards, students ought to have one-third of the places in these boards.

[Wieckowska] What else does the ZSP disapprove of?

[Jozefiak] We object to the deletion of the clause that guarantees students and their families the right to material benefits and free medical care. The bill says that they may receive them, which does not mean that they will.

We are also angry because college principals will have the right to annul the resolutions of college student unions, and college senates will have the right to dissolve the student unions. This is a blatant attempt to influence student unions by administrative means. By introducing the enigmatic clause whereby student unions must safeguard the college's good name, it will be very easy to interpret, for example, a struggle for higher student grants as an activity that clashes with college interests and impose appropriate sanctions. This smacks of Stalinism. Could this be a repetition of history? Apart from that, the bill envisages that a student will have to pay for his studies if he exceeds the time limit. This principle is correct, provided that it does not apply to those who have been forced to extend their period of study for financial and other reasons.

We have a series of other reservations, especially the idea of granting colleges varying degrees of autonomy. Considering that the bill is to grant colleges considerably greater independence, it is too rambling, and too detailed.

[Wieckowska] Are you trying to obtain parliamentary support?

[Jozefiak] We already have our representatives in the Sejm commission headed by Deputy Wieslaw Kaczmarek. We are also counting on support from our colleagues in local government bodies and the Independent Students Association, who have probably not yet acquainted themselves with the provisions of the bill because they are keeping quiet about it.

[Wieckowska] The bill seems to have woken the ZSP from its winter sleep, as it were. Is this a general mobilization prior to the September congress?

[Jozefiak] Contrary to popular belief, we do exist, and our situation is not at all bad, which one can see as far as the defense of student rights and interests is concerned. Take as an example this year's talks with the Ministry of National Education on freezing student grants. Other student organizations abandoned the subject, but the ZSP firmly said no. One should also remember that it is thanks to the ZSP that grants have not been frozen, and that the basic grant is Z352,800 a month and is constantly reviewed.

The September congress will adopt a statute and program for the 1990/91 academic year. The drafts of the basic documents have already been produced by the congress commission, so there will be a lot of time to discuss them. One thing is certain: The ZSP effectively performs the function of a student trade union. Following a cadre review, there are 35,000 of us. The competition is encouraging, and it is only a question of time before the entire student community reaps advantages. However, we must all remember that it is our joint duty to struggle for the interests of the entire student community.

Iliescu Meets University Square Demonstrators

AU0805085190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0817 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/5/1990—Ion Iliescu, PNUC [Provisional National Unity Council] president, started a meeting on May 8 in the morning at the headquarters of the Provisional National Unity Council, with representatives of the participants in the marathon demonstration that has lasted for 15 days in the Bucharest University Square.

Opposition Walks Out of Talks

AU0805104990 Paris AFP in English 1016 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Bucharest, May 8 (AFP)—Representatives of Romanian anti-communist opposition groups walked out of scheduled talks with interim president Ion Iliescu within minutes here Tuesday [8 May] because he refused to allow journalists to attend, an AFP correspondent reported.

Marian Munteanu, president of the league of Bucharest students, said "Our mandate stops here because President Iliescu was opposed to a press presence. There will not be any dialogue."

Another member of the four-man opposition group said they had not even seen Mr. Iliescu but only a four-member team he sent to meet them.

Aleaxaner Nancu, of the "December 21" movement, said the oppositon was prepared to limit press coverage to a single camera but Mr. Iliescu let it be known he was totally opposed to the press being there.

The meeting was to have taken place in the parliament building only two kilometers (around a mile) from the city's University Square where protestors have held more than two weeks of anti-government demonstrations to demand that former communists from the Ceausescu era be barred from national elections scheduled for May 20.

An estimated 1,000 protesters in the square greeted news of the breakdown with shouts of delight. Before the attempted dialogue several had expressed scepticism saying the country's present leaders were "too authoritarian" to negotiate.

The protestors have launched hunger strikes and staked out so-called "communist-free zones" in public squares to show their opposition to the government, which they say still has communists in key positions.

Mr. Iliescu originally denounced the protestors as "hooligans" but has since apologized for the remark.

Opposition political parties have repeatedly demanded that the elections be delayed to give them more time to organize and several parties have threatened to boycott the polls if violence against opposition candidates continues.

Shortly before the meeting, Mr. Munteanu told journalists that he expected the talks to be a "long-term dialogue about the future of society."

He said the opposition was not seeking an immediate solution, but a commitment from Mr. Iliescu. He had no intention of asking him not to stand in the presidential elections nor to postpone the May 20 poll.

What the opposition was seeking was assurances that "point eight" of the Timisoara declaration would be observed. This excludes from the next three legislative elections former senior communist party officials, and demands the resignation of Interior Minister Mihai Chitac and his deputy General Corneliu Diamandescu.

Doina Cornea, one of Romania's best-known dissidents under the Ceausescu regime, who was among a small group which accompanied the oppositon delegation to the parliament building, said the offer to negotiate had been nothing more than "electoral propaganda to present a favourable image to the West."

PNUC Statement on Talks' Breakdown

AU0805121890 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1100 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] As announced, a meeting was scheduled to begin today at the Parliament Palace between representatives of the Provisional National Unity Council [PNUC] and delegates of some associations that organized the demonstration in Bucharest's University Square. Here follows a statement made at a meeting with journalists at the Press Bureau in the (?Intercontinental) Hotel:

[Begin Finantu recording] Gentlemen, my name is Paul Finantu. I am the spokesman of the PNUC president's cabinet. I came here to present to you the following statement of the PNUC leadership:

As announced, on Tuesday, 9 May 1990 a dialogue was scheduled to start between PNUC President Mr. Ion Iliescu and the representatives of the University Square demonstrators. Unfortunately, we have so far been unable to implement this initiative. After repeated fluctuations regarding the composition of the demonstrators' delegation, an incomplete delegation presented itself for the dialogue.

The delegates also requested the presence of a cameraman to record the discussions on a videocassette. Although the four delegates were told that the necessary technical conditions were ensured for recording the minutes of the meeting—the text of the minutes was to be authenticated by the signatures of all participants—the demonstrators' delegation rejected this solution.

In spite of the fact that the PNUC president waited for an entire hour for the talks to begin, the dialogue could

not take place because of the refusal by the delegates, who, as one can easily imagine, were more interested in the publicity value of the planned dialogue than in its substance.

Meanwhile, PNUC Vice President Mr. Ion Caramitru talked to the delegates and tried unsuccessfully to find a mutually acceptable solution. The bridges have not been cut, as the four delegates pledged to brief those who appointed them on the situation created and to possibly ask for a modification of their mandate that will enable them to start the dialogue. As a matter of fact, a similar dialogue took place—without preconditions—a few days ago between the PNUC president and the representatives of the Timisoara Society.

In the current situation, provided that the representatives of the University Square demonstrators clarify their position as far as the PNUC is concerned, the dialogue is still possible.

This is the text of the statement I wanted to present to you. I reiterate that it represents the viewpoint of the PNUC leadership. [end recording]

Anticommunist Demonstrations Continue

In Bucharest's University Square

AU0705204990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1938 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 7/5/1990—The novel element of the marathon demonstration in the University Square in Bucharest going on for two weeks is the book to be signed by all those requiring the broadcasting at the television of a cassette recorded in the evening of December 22. Signatures were also gathered for the adhesion to the 8th item of the Timisoara Proclamation demanding that former activists and secret police members be banned from elections.

Monday afternoon, at the rush hour of the demonstration, "the neo-communism-free zone" included several thousand persons some of them not actively participating in the manifestation.

The demonstrators require that the electoral law be amended by including the 8th item of the Timisoara Proclamation and that the television statute be modified. The atmosphere was calm.

A manifestation of adhesion to the Timisoara Proclamation was organized by trade unions in the town of Ploiesti, too. A part of the citizens protested against it. The police ensured a peaceful manifestation.

In Timisoara's Opera Square

AU0705185390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1640 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 7/5/1990—The anticommunist demonstration continues in the Opera Square of Timisoara turned over the last few days into an electoral festival of music and poetry, of speeches and readings of articles from newspapers, of listening to radio programmes, despite the protests of the citizens living in the area, of representatives of enterprises and institutions who demand an end to the demonstration and the restoration of quiet in that central part of the city. [sentence as received] According to the information supplied by Cpt. Avram Balan, chief of the guard and order bureau of the city police, over 15-20 daily complaints were registered last week, especially in the evening and during the night, when the Opera Square turns into an arena of the free will everyone acting as he wishes, perturbing quiet and the proper course of activities in the area. [sentence as received] On Monday at noon one could hear the Timisoara trial live. The few demonstrators mounted a tent under which they prepare their speeches and the afternoon programmes.

'Majority Is Against' Timisoara Proclamation

AU0605175890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1644 GMT 6 May 90

["Election Campaign: The Majority Is Against the Proclamation of Timisoara"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 6/5/1990—Ion Iliescu has accepted the idea of dialogue with representatives of a marathon demonstration in Bucharest's University Square, but the majority of the population is against the proclamation of Timisoara.

Answering a question on whether the president of the provisional parliament must establish dialogue with demonstrators, 89 percent of the respondents said no, 3 percent said yes, with 8 percent giving no answer.

In the opinion of the majority (88 percent) the government must not establish dialogue either. The question was answered in the affirmative by 8 percent, with 4 percent avoiding to give an answer.

At the same time, 87 percent of the respondents think that a special session of miniparliament to discuss the University Square events is not necessary, against 8 percent who think the session must take place.

The ratio of supporters to opponents of the Proclamation of Timisoara's point 8 is, according to this opinion poll, of 14-to 78.5 percent.

The main claim of the demonstrators in Bucharest and a few other cities in the country is the amendment of the Electoral Law—which the Provisional National Unity Council adopted with just one vote against—through the inclusion of this point which bans former party activists and Securitate members to run for parliament for the first three terms.

The opinion poll was taken by the non-governmental and nonpolitical "Dacia" office on a sample of 987 citizens.

Arges NSF Communique Condemns Demonstrations

AU0605195390 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1900 GMT 6 May 90

["Excerpts" of communique issued by the Arges branch of the National Salvation Front; date not given]

[Text] We Arges people, members of the NSF [National Salvation Front], protest against the demonstrations in Bucharest, Timisoara, and Constanta, demonstrations (?incited by the) political parties, whose aim it is to destabilize us.

We protest against the minority in the streets who pose as representatives of the people and who are trying, by all sorts provocations, to create tension and incidents, and to hamper the normal progress of the elections.

We categorically disapprove of the demand for the government's resignation and for amending the Election Law adopted by consensus within the Provisional National Unity Council. We express our disagreement with the nonobservance of the norms of order and coexistence, which leads to street chaos.

We protest against those who—in our country and abroad—have launched a campaign of slandering and denigrating the National Salvation Front.

We clearly oppose the postponement of the 20 May elections, a postponement that would bring about an intentional destabilization of our country.

We protest against the maneuver expressed by Point 8 of the Timisoara Proclamation, a maneuver whose aim it is to prevent NSF President Mr. Ion Iliescu from participating in the presidential elections.

We request that the government take immediate and determined steps against the demonstrators who are trying—through provocations and incidents—to postpone the elections.

Army Expresses Apolitical Position

AU0705135790 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 24 Apr 90 p 5

["Glorious Traditions and New Structures—Declaration of the Committee of Action for the Army's Democratization"; place and date of issue not given]

[Text] The generals, officers, military experts, noncommissioned officers, and soldiers of the Romanian Army convey to the country the following:

The Romanian Army, through tradition and through its role has been and continues to be the defender of the Romanian people and of the homeland. Therefore, the Army has to be noncommitted ideologically or politically; it is the hope of the nation during difficult times in history, such as during the war of independence, the war for the completion of the nation, the last world war, as well as during the 1989 December revolution.

The Army is at the side of the people because it is born from the people and the people should support the Army with all their might and should be at one with the Army. The Army must not, and does not even want to serve a party or a government set up by parties or to be used to promote the interests of any group which could be at variance with the people's aspirations and, thus, destabilize the country's sociopolitical life. The Army does not want to be involved in politics nor to be attracted to politics via the roundabout way of exercising the right to vote, something that the Army did not do before 1945.

The best form of military instruction is: Cultivating heroical traditions, cultivating military dignity, instruction in modern combat methods, and instilling sincere relations of comradeship among soldiers and commanders, and this has been proved on the battlefield in the past.

Only the elected representatives of the nation, gathered in parliament have the right to use the Army for the country's defense, under conditions which are clearly defined in the Constitution.

The Army dissociates itself from all those who were fighting to maintain the regime of the Communist dictatorship, but not from those, who, as ordinary fee paying members of the Romanian Communist Party suffered, together with the people, the humiliation and oppression of the government. Likewise, the Army does not accept that it has to give moral credit to, and maintain among its ranks, those persons whose military and patriotic honor have been damaged by undignified actions or by professional imposture and incompetence.

The Army is the trustworthy shield of the country and it has to be regarded as such because of its moral cohesion which springs from the unity of will and the support of the whole nation. By expressing its support for the Army, the whole nation will contribute to establishing the new structure of this institution in the spirit of its glorious military traditions.

On behalf of the Committee of Action for the democratization of the Army, signed by Lieutenant Colonel Cornel Surcu, Major Octavian Chiriac, and Major Nicolae Cirligeanu.

Defense Minister Statement on Army's Position

AU0505185990 Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 27 Apr 90 p 1

[Editorial article: "Political Problems Should Not Be Avoided by Anyone—Statement by Mr. Atanasie Stanculescu, Minister of National Defense"]

[Text] The National Peasant (Christian Democratic) Party [NPCDP] notes with concern the mounting political tension in our country.

The current government tolerates an atmosphere of political violence, it favors giving the public disinformation, and creates the preconditions for establishing a new totalitarian neocommunist regime. Profoundly attached to democratic practices, political tolerance, and dialogue, our party wants to participate actively in the reestablishment, as soon as possible, of an atmosphere of trust, collaboration, and cooperation with all democratic forces. The NPCDP, the preserver of long-standing and glorious traditions of struggle for independence, freedom, and the nation's reunification, views the Romanian Army as **the fundamental institution** of the Romanian people, accredited—through its traditions of struggle and sacrifice, and with full legitimacy—above all political and group interests. By virtue of this conviction, we approached General Victor Atanasie Stanculescu, minister of national defense, with the request to make a brief statement to our newspaper on the Romanian Army's position on problems facing our society. He was kind enough to respond to our paper's request:

"The Army wishes to have an outspoken attitude toward all parties and organizations and does not want to be involved in political disputes. "During this period we do not want to have any forceful contact in any of the demonstrations that will take place.

"In electoral confrontations, I believe that all problems have to be solved through discussions by political leaders in order to seek peaceful solutions. Political problems cannot be avoided by anyone. They have to be discussed."

No Electoral Rallies in Military Units

AU0705122490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0933 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/5/1990—The military are free to opt for a platform or a candidate, but to guide them as regards the political options is not allowed, showed the minister of the national defense, adding that there would be no electoral rallies in the military units.

Speaking to a news conference held on May 4, in Bucharest, General Atanasie Victor Stanculescu assessed that after the consultations with Army cadres, especially with the most active segment of the Army, meaning the young officers who initiated the appeal for the Army's democratization, the present atmosphere in the military units was good. He also showed that it was agreed with the Committee for the Army's Democratization that a dialogue be organized with the candidates to Romania's presidency, so that they should make public their stand on the role of the Army after elections.

The minister of national defense showed that the commanding officers were changed 30-70 per cent in units and big units and 60 per cent in the ministry. He estimated that the process of cadre renewal would be completed by May 30.

Voican Attacks Antigovernment Demonstrators

PM0805144490 Paris LE FIGARO in French 4 May 90 p 4

[Irina de Chikoff dispatch: "Voican Attacks 'Professional Dissidents'"]

[Excerpt] Bucharest—On his return from Switzerland, where he spent the 1 May weekend, Gelu Voican, the man involved in the trial and execution of the Ceausescus, was once again in the front line. This geologist who has become deputy prime minister, attacked the golani—the "hooligans" who have occupied University Square in Bucharest for the past 11 days.

Voican, a very tall man with a carefully trimmed beard and shining eyes, thundered: "Ion Iliescu, the chairman of the National Salvation Front, was too kind when he described the University Square demonstrators as hooligans. That is a euphemism. They deserve much worse names. In my view, these demonstrators who are paid 400 lei for 12 hours in the square are committing criminal offenses which warrant prison sentences. Unfortunately, the police have not acted in accordance with the law because they are afraid of being carried away by these provocateurs into actions which will subsequently be interpreted as repression."

The deputy prime minister stood up to supervise some photocopying. In his haste, he knocked over his armchair, picked it up, and revealed under his jacket a broad leather belt which he inherited from his grandfather. Then he sat down again and resumed his diatribe: "These people are professional dissidents. They manipulate several thousand anarchists and former revolutionaries who are embittered because they have not been given any position in the new government structures. With regard to the intellectuals performing on the University balcony, this is an opportunity for them to act as orators and advertise themselves."

Gelu Voican sat forward in his armchair to give more emphasis to his convictions. Just as he said that he wanted to kill the dictator and his wife without any form of trial, so he denies that the University Square demonstrators represent a section of the opposition. "There will be no second revolution," he said. "the population has not come to support them. In the suburbs and bedroom communities around Bucharest the workers are expressing their indignation at this occupation of the downtown area and the police are having to do all they can to prevent them from coming here themselves to restore order and disperse the dissidents." [passage omitted]

Police Investigate Events at Liberals Rally

AU0705133290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1020 GMT 7 May 90

["Election Campaign"—Details from the General Police Inspectorate]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/5/1990—In connection with the May 5, events in Braila City, during an electoral rally of the local branch of the National Liberal Party with the participation of Radu Campeanu, the General Police Inspectorate offers the following deals:

The team sent from Bucharest to trace the persons who committed violence, gathered data on ten persons who, by direct actions or instigation, or striked or incited to troubling the activities in the Republica Cinema Hall.

The investigation continues.

Government Regrets Attempt on Campeanu's Life

AU0805135590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1143 GMT 8 May 90

["Government Statement: Concerning the Assault on Mr. Radu Campeanu, National Liberal Party Chairman"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/5/1990—We deplore the assault on Mr. Radu Campeanu at Braila on 5 May and assess such acts as falling outside the normal framework for the election campaign, a government statement issued in Bucharest on 8 May says. We once again stress that we firmly reject any such action that we regard as anti-democratic and harmful for those concerned first of all, and for the political situation and atmosphere in our country in general.

The Ministry of the Interior forces must do their duty to ensure an orderly and peaceful character of electoral meetings and rallies, to give protection to the political personalities taking part in the election campaign, to prevent any acts of violence and if they happen to occur to find the culprits and take legal action against them.

We believe reproachful actions such as the assault on Mr. Radu Campeanu cannot be blamed on any political party or group contesting the elections. We appeal to the electorate to make its political options in a civilized, responsible manner in accord with the provisions of the electoral law, the statement shows.

Trial of Ceausescu Associates Resumes

AU0805081390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0612 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/5/1990—The trial of four Ceausescu close associates started Monday 7 May at the Higher Court of Justice's Military Department. The four Ion Coman, Ilie Matei, Cornel Pacoste and Radu Balan are charged with genocide.

On 17 December 1989 dictator Ceausescu ordered Ion Coman—a former Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party's [RCP's] Executive Political Bureau member—and several high-ranking officers to go to Timisoara to coordinate the protesters' reprisal. The position of the defender is inferable from his reported answer to Ceausescu's question whether he knew what he had to do: "I ordered fire" an order that was fulfilled.

Defendants Radu Balan, ex-first secretary of the RCP Timis County Committee, and Ilie Matei, former Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party's secretary, pledged themselves to repress the demonstrators' protest. Notwithstanding their realization of the revolutionary sense of the movement they, jointly with decision makers of the repression forces—the militia and the Securitate—chose to defend the dictatorial regime and made "the single intervention plan effective." In the evening of 16 December 1989 militia intervention troops as well as Securitate and firemen's small units brutally attacked the demonstrators with specific fighting methods.

In his then capacity as alternate member of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party's Executive Political Bureau, and deputy prime minister, defendant Cornel Pacoste, together with the other decision-makers supported the decision to open fire on demonstrators, having been dispatched by the dictator to Timisoara to assist in the fulfilment of that decision.

In the city of Timisoara and the County of Timis 96 casualties were reported as well as more than 300 persons injured and maltreated. The toll is as yet incomplete, the cases of certain missing persons being investigated.

A number of 896 persons were arrested many of which were ill-treated and abusively investigated by the militia and Securitate forces, which is the object of another case.

Since the charges against the four defendants are closely related to those brought against a 21-member group the trial of which is under way, the two cases were connected.

After the indictment was read the court adjourned until 8 May when judgment begins with the defendants' hearing.

PNUC Executive Bureau Meeting Opens

AU0705132790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1057 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/5/1990— A meeting of the PNUC [Provisional National Unity Council] Executive Bureau started on May 7, to discuss draft decree-laws that are to be submitted for debate and endorsement to the plenum of the country's legislative forum, and to establish the agenda and day of the future session of the Provisional National Unity Council.

Polls Show Iliescu as Electorate's 'Favorite'

AU0405190990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1723 GMT 4 May 90

["Political Life—The Electorate's Favourite Ion Iliescu"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/5/1990—Were the elec-

tions to be held right now Ion Iliescu and the National Salvation Front would easily win, results of a recent poll takes on 987 citizens by the Dacia Office, a non-governmental and apolitical body, show.

Ion Iliescu is the favourite of 79 per cent of the polled while only eight and, respectively, six per cent of them would vote for Ion Ratiu and Radu Campeanu. The weight of the persons who have not decided yet is of 7 percent.

The National Salvation Front would get 68 per cent of the votes, the Christian and Democratic National Peasant Party 12.5, the National Liberal Party 9.5, while the rest of the votes would go to the scores of other parties in Romania.

Leading the personality top is the NSF Leader Ion Iliescu with a total 44 per cent, followed by Prime Minister Petre Roman (31 per cent), the presidential candidate of the National Peasant Party Ion Ratiu (12 per cent) and the presidential candidate of the National Liberal Party, Radu Campeanu (10 per cent). Ion Bratianu, chairman of the Liberal Union gets three per cent of the vote.

The proposal for a postponement of the elections is rejected by 88 per cent of the people polled, being supported by only three per cent.

Iliescu Compares Poorly With GDR's Krenz

AU0605203290 Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 28 Apr 90 p 1

[Serban Madgearu article: "Mr. Ion Iliescu-Krenz"]

[Text] Worse than Krenz, because the latter prevented a bloodbath in the GDR.

Worse than Krenz, because the latter at least did not pretend that he was something other than what he actually was.

Worse than Krenz, because the latter did not organize counterdemonstrations that—and this is the limit of cynicism—he then blamed on the opposition.

Worse than Krenz, because, learning from the latter's experience, knowingly and perfectly conscious, he acted in order to split the Romanian people.

Worse than Krenz, because, after succeeding in attracting a major part of the workers to his side and then inciting them against the intellectuals and students, he is mainly to be blamed for the outbreak of the bloody incidents in Ardeal [Transylvania and Banat], especially since he chose to pay attention to interethnic tension only when it was too late. And as a "wise head of state," even then he did not deign go to Tirgu Mures.

Worse than Krenz, because we did not hear the latter call students, intellectuals, and workers HOOLIGANS [all caps as published], people who were demonstrating peacefully against him.

Worse than Krenz, because—after being booed on 22 December in Revolution Square (a picture that has not been shown on television to this day) when he proposed a reform of socialism—he took hold of the platform drawn up between 17-19 December by Mr. Mazilu in order to falsify it.

Worse than Krenz, because—not wanting to openly admit the coup d'etat that overlapped the revolution—he contributed to the "evaporation" of the terrorists.

Worse than Krenz, because, in spite of public statements and the opening toward dialogue he claims, he always refused to make firm commitments during the discussions with the opposition, and when at last he did make such a commitment—in connection with the way to form the Provisional National Unity Council—he trampled it down.

Worse than Krenz, because in the eye of the world he has destroyed the image of Romania that the revolution had lent it.

Worse than Krenz, because he continues to lie to us.

Worse than Krenz, because he is here in Romania. Could Comrade Iliescu be more "valuable" to Moscow than Comrade Krenz? Maybe not.

Order of Candidates on Ballot Papers Decided

AU0605175490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1714 GMT 6 May 90

["Election Campaign: The Lots Have Decided..."—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 6/5/1990—Lots were drawn Saturday 5 May at the Central Electoral Bureau to decide the order of the names of the candidates for president on ballot papers. The result is the following: 1. Ion Iliescu, National Salvation Front candidate; 2. Radu Campeanu, National Liberal Party candidate; 3. Ion Ratiu, National Christian-Democratic Peasant Party candidate.

The lots-drawing ceremony was attended by representatives of the parties concerned, and of other political groups as observers, as well as by members of the Central Electoral Bureau.

UN Election Experts Visit Noted

AU0405200590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1938 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/5/1990—A U.N. expert delegation comprised of Jean Paul Costa, Michael Juhana Wilhelm Hiden and Tom McCarthy were in Bucharest from 30 April until 4 May.

They met with the Central Electoral Bureau to discuss matters related to the decree-law on elections for Romania's Parliament and president, their organization and the foreign observers' presence.

Legal as well as technical suggestions were offered by the experts concerning the application of the decree-law and certain practical measures derived from international experience to ensure that elections are free and democratic as well as fair.

The UN experts also talked with PNUC [Provisional National Unity Council] Constitutional and Human Rights Commission members and were received by Constantin Ene, deputy minister of foreign affairs.

Jimmy Carter Invited To Observe Elections

AU0405190890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1732 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/5/1990—U.S. Ex-President Jimmy Carter was invited by the Central Electoral Bureau, by other fora in Romania, to attend, along with representatives of other states, of government and nongovernment orvanizations and various personalities of the world, the May 20 free elections, as observer, reported Ovidiu Zarnescu, chairman of the Bureau, at a news conference on the official inauguration on May 4 of the International Press Centre at the Intercontinental Hotel. However, he showed that Jimmy Carter did not confirm his coming yet.

Ovidiu Zarnescu and the other members of the Central Electoral Bureau answered questions posed by Romanian and foreign journalists in connection with the organization and unfolding of the poll. Among other things, they showed that the Central Electoral Bureau would be extended on May 5 with another ten persons according to the law, representing the parties and political formations participant in the elections, raising thus the total number to 17. The Constituency Electoral Bureaux too, will be made final in the next few days. They will be made up of three judges and seven representatives of political parties and formations each. The Romanian electorate is assessed at some 16,080,000.

Vice Premier Draganescu Discusses Election

Says Willy Brandt Invited

AU0505143690 Paris AFP in English 1344 GMT 5 May 90

[Text] Bucharest, May 5 (AFP)—Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Mihai Draganescu announced Saturday [5 May] that the interim government expects "500 to 1,000 foreign observers" to monitor presidential and parliamentary elections on May 20. Among "international figures" the government has invited to attend are former U.S. president Jimmy Carter and former West German chancellor Willy Brandt, Mr. Draganescu added.

The minister, who heads a commission responsible for technical organization of the election, added that a West German public opinion institute, INFAS, will organize an opinion poll in cooperation with a Romanian institute. The first opinion poll forecast will be released one minute after all the polling stations close, Mr. Draganescu said. Proper election results are due on May 22 for the presidency and May 23 for parliament, he added.

INFAS, the minister stressed at a press conference here, took part in the East German elections with a margin of error of just 0.1 per cent.

Mr. Dragenescu also stated that the electoral commission had responded favourably to requests from leaders of the political parties " to protect their headquarters and voting posters" and to "support" the transmission of their electoral messages through independent newspapers where they did not have a press of their own.

On security at the 13,000-odd polling stations, Deputy Interior Minister Corneliu Diamandescu said "police and defence ministry forces will be posted outside and only outside the polling stations within a radius of 500 metres" (about a third of a mile).

Describes Procedures

AU0605150090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1430 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 6/5/1990—The Romanian Government's Technical Commission whose aim is to ensure order and put the conditions in place for the electorate to fairly and freely make its options should be distinguished from the Central Electoral Bureau, and the County Electoral Bureaux and polling stations, its chairman, Mihai Draganescu, told Romanian and foreign journalists at a press conference.

He said more than 130 million lei had been allocated from the budget for the 20 May elections when about 13,000 polling stations will function, and that the government had invited observers from the Council of Europe, the EEC, the countries taking part in the CSCE process, U.S.-based international organizations and prominent international political figures.

Furthermore, he said that the presence of a West German opinion poll-taking organization had been accepted to monitor the elections in over 300 polling stations so that provisional election returns can be made as soon as the polls are closed.

The chairman of the government's commission put the number of observers at between 500 and 1,000, including journalists accredited with the Central Electoral Bureau who have access to polling stations, can watch vote counting, but cannot engage in actions that may influence the election returns.

Official returns for the presidency of the republic will predictably be known in the course of Tuesday, 22 May, with those for parliament taking one more day, until Wednesday 23 May.

* Campaign Methods of NSF Attacked

90BA0065D Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 20 Apr 90 pp 1, 3

[Vasile Gionea article: "The Political Level and Democracy"]

[Text] Democracy and dictatorship are the two political extremes toward which any citizen may turn. The path to dictatorship is shorter because it does not require any intellectual effort: not even using one's own head. The leader, or the dictator, will think for you, will require blind submission, and you will become his tool. The dictator is concerned with cultivating only instincts within his followers: Hatred, intolerance, and vengefulness, and his means of propaganda are distortion and lies. People who allow themselves to be manipulated in this fashion and who are not bothered by the yoke of dictatorship are those on the lowest rung of society. And as far as we can ascertain, they are not few in number; on the contrary, there are very many of them, alarmingly many! Not as many as Mr. Brucan claimed... After the results of next month's elections become known, we will know exactly how many. Those who will vote for the NSF [National Salvation Front] are those who have not gotten over communism and dictatorship and who still want it, albeit in the form of the NSF rather than the RCP [Romanian Communist Party]. The rather few concessions made so far by the NSF were only meant to win electoral support. Remember that this is what Ceausescu did in the beginning, too, until he felt securely ensconced in the presidential seat. The same will the NSF do after the elections if it wins the power. The voters should not harbor any doubt in this respect. Until last year, under the Communist regime, elections were a sinister farce, because the results were preestablished by the RCP Central Committee without counting the ballots. For the first time now, after half a century, everyone has an opportunity to show his preferences; all those who will vote for the NSF will thereby show that they want the "blessings" of communism and of a new dictatorship. They will no longer be allowed to show discontent, since they themselves chose their political regime, and will no longer be able to protest as they do today, because the dictatorship will not allow either protests, or complaints, or criticism, only complete endorsement and praise. We hope that you have not already forgotten what happened in fascist Italy, Hitlerite Germany, Stalinist USSR, and in Romania under Gheorghiu-Dej and Ceausescu.

The methods that the NSF is using in the current electoral campaign are in no way different from the ones used in 1946: lies, disinformation, accusations, unbelievable hostility toward us, and gangs of hooligans in every commune and village who meet the representatives of every other party with booing, stones, and clubs. These are the free and democratic elections that Messrs. Iliescu and Roman have in store for us! Industrial workers are being told that if the historical parties should win, they will be laid off, especially those who had been RCP members, and that the NSF is the only party that can ensure stable jobs and good pay. We, however, have opened the doors to all the former RCP members, with the exception of the nomenklatura and those who held leadership positions in the state administration. We will never reproach the former their political past and the fact that they joined the RCP out of need or fear. All they will have to do is prove that they have forgotten the Communist working and living style.

The path to democracy is longer and more laborious. It is chosen by independent, self-reliant people of initiative, capable of correctly interpreting events, of distinguishing between good and bad, and between what is useful and what is harmful; people who respect the views of the others and accept them when they are good and well founded. Democracy promotes human and social solidarity, kindness, dialogue, understanding, and cooperation, and rejects the parasitic nature of dictatorship. The May 1990 elections will show the level of political maturity of our electorate. If it will opt for democracy, but not the fake democracy preached by the NSF, it can hope to gain a dignified place within the European Community and to be generously supported by the Western countries in economic and cultural areas, to a greater extent than our neighbors who have shed communism, because, as one knows, our people gave their lives to be rid of the dictatorial yoke. The West will not extend us any aid if in May we opt for communism and dictatorship, because the NSF means communism, and communism means dictatorship.

Let us not betray the revolution, but carry it to fulfillment, shedding communism for ever. In May we must show a lofty civic spirit and political maturity at the polls, opting for democracy which, do not forget, the NSF is brutally violating.

Democratic Center Party Alliance Proposals

AU0405191190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1719 GMT 4 May 90

["Election Campaign—A Possible Solution for a Broad Coalition Government"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/5/1990—The Democratic Centre-Party Alliance suggets a simple solution to reject totalitarianism and promote democracy. It calls on the electorate to vote for one of the presidential candidates and in the case of parliamentary candidates, for the nominees of a party other than that supporting the presidential candidate they opted for. In this way there will be no political ovement to take over the power completely and a government of broad coalition will be created.

NPCDP Presents Concepts, Programs

AU0505171690 Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 28 Apr 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "The Election Emblem of the National Peasant (Christian Democratic) Party Is an Eye"]

[Text] **Citizens of Romania!**

Lovers of the beauty of Romanian nature!

The Romanian people were born on this soil! Therefore, they themselves are part and parcel of its beauty. Romanians are united like brothers with the nature of their country; this is an ancient truth that our **party** will include in its genuine cultural, economic, and social concepts.

The concepts of **the National Peasant (Christian Democratic) Party [NPCDP]** regarding the market economy, the progress and expansion of industrial activity, services, agriculture, and tourism have been given concrete shape in programs that constantly take account of modern ways, ecological aspects, the environment, and the elimination of pollution sources.

The **NPCDP programs** on forestry, wood exploitation and processing, tourism, and the reorganization of agriculture have made known to the public and to the nature-loving Romanian nation tangible and effective strategies for capitalizing on the beauties of picturesque Romania in accordance with the requirements and needs for preserving a sound climate and an ecological balance.

The NPCDP proposes that we continue to live as we did during the golden times of former centuries in a clean and sound country where people may breathe freely and live according to their desires.

The NPCDP is convinced that these aspects are also inseparable parts of the free and democratic life all of us wish for.

All of you vote for the **NPCDP** on 20 May 1990!

Appeals for Ethnic Minorities' Votes

AU0505172590 Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 29 Apr 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "The Election Emblem of the NPCDP Is an Eye!"]

[Text] **Romanian citizens of other nationalities**

In its entire activity the **National Peasant (Christian Democratic) Party [NPCDP]** promotes principles and programs whose foundation is **freedom.**

In connection with the cohabiting nationalities, the **NPCDP** stands for the traditional Romanian humaneness and hospitality, understanding, and brotherly assistance.

Romanian citizens of other nationalities

You, too, are the sons and daughters of the Romanian soil! Your fathers and fathers' fathers were born on this land and, together with the Romanians, wrote joint heroic history.

December 1989 once again proved the common desire for freedom, well-being, and truth on Romanian soil.

The NPCDP has written on its flag the revolutionary requirement of continuing and achieving these ardent ideals.

The NPCDP will remain faithful to the 1 December 1918 Grand National Assembly decision, which proclaims: "Full ethnic freedom for all cohabiting peoples. Each people will teach, administer, and judge in its own mother tongue through individuals coming from among its ranks, and each people will have the right to be represented in legal bodies and the country's government in a proportion matching the number of its individuals."

Citizens of other nationalities!

Sons and daughters of the soil of eternal Romania!

On 20 May vote for the NPCDP—the party of love for the people in the immortal spirit of democracy and Christian morals!

Suto on Eye Operation, Romanian Prospects

AU0405085890 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 28 Apr 90 pp 1, 3

[Report on interview with Transylvanian writer Andras Suto by Peter Sereny; place and date not given: "Andras Suto Gave an Interview to NEPSZABADSAG"]

[Excerpts] I will be able to tell whether I can see with my damaged eye in some two or three weeks—Andras Suto said in a telephone interview with our correspondent in Washington, who asked him about the results of the examination after the operation performed near Boston.

According to his patient, Professor Hiroshe, who performed the surgery on the writer's left eye, does not talk much. The eye was seriously injured during the pogrom in Tirgu Mures.

[Suto] All he said was that the injured vitreous body has become clearer after the operation, and he hopes this process will continue. [passage omitted]

[Sereny] What would your message and advise for Transylvania be?

[Suto] Following an almost continuous passivity of seventy years, the Hungarians in Romania have become more radical in a certain respect, and anyone who deals with the public affairs of this national minority should take this into consideration. We must do away with the harmful traditions, like misinterpreting what is tactical and not tactical. The Fabry-type classic formulation

according to which the vox humana is the main characteristic of the minority attitude itself strengthens these masses in their sufferings, but only spiritually. Therefore, this vox humana should be accompanied by a determined political action. [passage omitted]

[Sereny] How could Hungary help?

[Suto] In every way and method allowed by the system of international relations. This is so because, through its language and ethnic origin, the Hungarian national minority in Romania is an organic part of the Hungarian nation. Obviously, this obliges the nation itself to do everything possible for the fate of this national minority.

[Sereny] Including certain political groups in Hungary traveling to Romania and helping organize demonstrations?

[Suto] I do not think so because we are talking here about a different situation, and the political groups in Transylvania understand the questions and essence of this situation best. In addition, this is exactly what would provide the best opportunity for Romania to claim foreign interference in its internal affairs. [passage omitted]

[Sereny] How much confidence do you have in the Hungarian Government?

[Suto] Everything that the Hungarian Government has recently done for the Hungarian ethnic group in Romania and generally for the bilateral relations indeed happened in the spirit of a qualitative change. The result was an end to every so-called socialist country treating the national minority issue as having been automatically solved. Everything that we find as positive in the activity of the Hungarian Government is also a manifestation of the fact that it really accepted the fact that the Hungarian minorities, not only in Romania but in all the neighboring countries, are an organic part of the Hungarian nation. Hungary's leaders are responsible for these national minorities. [passage omitted]

MDUR Asks Magyars Not To Vote for Iliescu

LD0505114990 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 5 May 90

[Excerpt] [Announcer] The Magyar Democratic Union of Romania [MDUR] does not propose Ion Iliescu for the president of the country—Iliescu is the interim elected president of Romania. Miklos Lengyel reports from Bucharest.

[Lengyel] The MDUR has dissociated itself from the statement of Karoly Kiraly, according to which it is in the interest of ethnic Hungarians to vote for Iliescu in the 20 May presidential election. The organization will decide who it supports for president at a later date, but I have heard that most favor National Liberal Party candidate Radu Campeanu because it was he who behaved most correctly in the Tirgu Mures affair. [passage omitted]

Rejects Kiraly's Statements for Union

AU0705111190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0922 GMT 7 May 90

["Election Campaign—Mr. Kiraly Is Not Authorized To Speak on Behalf of the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/5/1990—The Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania (UDMR) [MDUR] wants to publicly state that Mr. Karoly Kiraly, vice-president of the Provisional National Unity Council, has no function within the union and is not authorized to make statements on its behalf. So, his statements are his opinions and must be interpreted as such, shows a statement released in Bucharest on Mr. Kiraly's opinions regarding the candidates to the presidency as well as the character and aims of the demonstration in University Square.

The opinions and positions of the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania are contained in various documents of the organization and have been approved by its leadership. The union does not take any responsibility for the opinions or statements of the persons it has not authorized.

The statement also shows that the person to benefit by the votes of the UDMR members and sympathizers for the presidency will be named by the union following its negotiations with the respective candidates, and will be notified in time.

Demands Protection for Meetings

AU0705201890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1810 GMT 7 May 90

["Election Campaign: MDUR Demands the Authorities to Protect Electoral Meetings"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 7/5/1990—The MDUR [Magyar Democratic Union of Romania] Presidium notes "with regret and consternation that abominable manifestations take place within election campaign, manifestations which disturb the political atmosphere and try to disorientate both the forces participating in the campaign and the electorate" reads a statement sent to ROMPRES agency.

"Expressing the indignation of the MDUR members and supporters, the document further reads, the presidium firmly condemns:

—the carelessness in drawing up the electoral lists which led to the non-registration or erroneous registration of the citizens in many counties. We demand that these lists be rigorously verified and the citizens' requirements be immediately taken into consideration.

—the legal procedure which, taking into consideration the complaints, deprived Mr. Elod Kincses (MDUR candidate for Senate in Mures) and Mrs. Smaranda Enache (independent candidate for Parliament in Mures) of the right to run for the elections. We

consider that the two personalities were unjustly blamed, their democratic attitude, their effort for understanding and coexistence based on the full equality of rights between the Romanian people and the Hungarian minority are highly appreciated.

—The outrageous actions—one of them being the one in Braila on May 5 when, to our great sorrow, Mr. Radu Campeanu and his assistants were attacked—which try to intimidate the parties' representatives and the participants in the public meetings and aim at hindering the normal course of the election campaign, at disturbing the legally scheduled meetings. We demand that the authorities ensure the protection of electoral meetings, contribute to ensure an adequate climate within the campaign of all political forces."

Importance of Introducing Market Economy

AU0705111090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0920 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/5/1990—Tudorel Postolache, chairman of the Government Commission on the working out of the program of transition to the market economy, showed at a news conference that on establishing the strategy to be advanced for approval to the legislative fora resulted from the May 20 elections, they analyzed the experience of numerous states. The programs for the period of transition, in the elaboration of which numerous experts participated, provide, among other things, for privatization, decentralization of the economy, the liberalization of the prices, a revamping of the foreign trade upon new criteria, the structural modernization of the national economy, so that a wide opening to the European and world economy may be achieved. The plans are open to any viable suggestion and proposal and they trace a way to be followed in harmony with Romania's interests. Modalities are in view to avoid an aggravation of the already present economic crisis in the period of transition to the market economy.

'Poor' Economic Performance Linked to Strikes

AU0805122990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1150 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/5/1990—Poor performance of several sectors of the Romanian economy is caused by workers' disregard of the productive process, by strikes and claims. For instance, the loading of ships with timber for export and of products come from the local iron-and-steel combine was stopped in Galati (port in southern Romania). The combine too, works with reduced shifts waiting for the raw material that is kept in Constanta port instead of being carried by the Danube-Black Sea Canal to Galati as tugboats are not available....

Oil industry stopped activity on May 7. The free trade union of the specialty ministry has announced that the workers in that sector would not resume work unless the claims advanced to the relevant authorities in late April are granted integrally.

Miners of one of the Caeni Baraolt enterprise (central Romania) units—some 250 workers—are on strike since May 7. Their reason: shortage of spare parts for conveyor belts, discontent with the steps envisaged for the managers to send a part of the employees on rest holidays or pay 50 per cent of the wages in conditions of standstill for "objective reasons."

On May 7, the public transport in Iasi city (north-eastern Romania) was completely interrupted by the strike of workers of the local transport county enterprise. A part of the claims have been granted and there are hopes for resumption of activity function of the negotiation results today. [sentence as received]

Journalist Society Holds Founding Congress

AU0305160690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1427 GMT 3 May 90

["Media: Congress of Journalists' Society of Romania"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 3/5/1990—The first congress of the Journalists' Society of Romania [JSR] started in Poiana Brasov (Central Romania) on May 3, 1990, in the presence of 250 delegates representing almost all publications affiliated or in the process of affiliation to the society.

The congress agenda includes the report on the activity of the society's Provisional Council over January 20-May 3, 1990, the draft statutes of the Journalists' Society of Romania and of the Union of Professional Journalists, the plan of activity for 1990-1991, an account of the JSR external activity and its prospects.

The congress proceedings continue.

Congress Ends in Brasov

AU0705090190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0617 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/5/1990—The First Congress of Romania's Society of Journalists ended at Brasov. Participants adopted the society's statute and confirmed its national council on which the member trade unions are represented. A 25-member permanent board was elected as its executive organ with Sergiu Andon chairman, Cristian Topescu and Grigore Marian vice-chairmen, and Emil Stanciu secretary.

Premier Petre Roman Visits Alba Iulia

AU0705092290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0619 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/5/1990—Romanian Prime Minister Petre Roman visited Friday the Great Union Hall at Alba Iulia where the act of Transylvania's union with the country was signed on 1 December 1918 and talked with museographers, after which he walked down to the memorial to peasant martyrs Horea, Closca and Crisan to lay a wreath.

Eventually, the prime minister met with Bishop Andrei Muresanu of the Orthodox Church, and Bishops Lajos Balint and Gyorgy Jakubini of the Roman Catholic Church, who asked the government to put the conditions in place for religious books to be printed and churches to be built. The prime minister promised to give the matter careful consideration and indiscriminate support to all denominations.

At a meeting with the county councillors and the leadership of the County's Provisional National Unity Council, Petre Roman spoke about "major openings" that are in the focus of the government: Administrative decentralization to give local administrators greater autonomy, the implementation of the law on private initiative and privatization with home trade, tourism and housebuilding as top priorities. A visit to the Remeti Monastery concluded the premier's visit in the area.

Romanians, Moldavians Meet at Prut River

'Hundreds of Thousands' Cross

AU0705125390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0923 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/5/1990—Hundreds of thousands of people of different ages and professions from all over Romania but particularly from the counties of Botosani, Iasi, Vaslui and Galati as well as from many places in the Moldavian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] thronged Sunday 6 May from the major crossing points in an impressive pilgrimage along the two banks of River Prut.

The "Flower Bridge Across the Prut" action was initiated by the Cultural League for the Unity of All Romanians jointly with the Bucharest-Kishinev Cultural Association and the People's Front of Moldavia.

At 12.00 Bucharest time, which has been Kishinev time too since Sunday, a religious service was held which ended in the chimes of bells of all churches on both banks of the river tolling in unison for the first time in many decades. Eventually flowers were thrown into the river from the northernmost place on Romania's map, at Miorcani, all the way downstream in a symbolic bridge-building effort. Millions of flowers formed a gaily colored flowing bridge to symbolize the wish for peace, understanding and harmony, a strong spiritual openness to match the liberty and democracy we are all living. Then the people crossed the river to set foot on its left bank in a climatic moment that brought the people together in a festival of the heart and the mind. Folk dances and music were performed, and toasts were raised to people so that their best wishes be fulfilled.

The same day, a Moldavian SSR's parliamentarian delegation including Nicolae Costin, mayor of the city of Kishinev, Rev. Petru Buburuz, Vasile Nedelciu and Mihai Ghimpu, people's deputies, were guests to the city of Iasi.

Details of Crossings Noted

AU0705084490 Paris AFP in English 2344 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] Bucharest, May 7 [date as received] (AFP)—Tens of thousands of Romanians crossed the Soviet border on Sunday to be reunited for the first time in 45 years with ethnic Romanians living in what is now the Soviet Republic of Moldavia.

Thronging crowds pushed their way onto trains crossing the Prut River which separates what was once Romanian Bessarabia into Soviet and Romanian Moldavia, while thousands more celebrated the reunion by dropping bouquets of flowers along the waterway.

"It's like the Germans, we're a divided country," said Adrian Neaga, a 27-year-old student who was interviewed by an Agence France-Presse correspondent as he got off a train from Iasi, Romania, to set foot in Ungeny, a border town some 20 kilometers (13 miles) away in Soviet Moldavia.

Authorities on both sides of the border, which was opened for six hours Sunday, were responding to a wave of requests by cultural associations and civic groups, active since the fall of the former hardline communist regime.

The operation, organized by civic groups, was called "Bridge of Flowers over the Prut." Authorities had waived the visa requirement and allowed Romanians to cross into the Soviet Union bearing simply their identity papers.

Beginning early Sunday morning traffic jams blocked all roads to Iasi, as thousands scrambled to board the trains. Some forced their way aboard through the carriage windows.

At Ungeny, Soviet border guards soon dropped all attempts at checking papers. Some abandoned their posts and went fishing.

On the Soviet side Romanians were greeted by crowds who welcomed them like family, bearing gifts of books and flowers.

A second border crossing is scheduled for June 28, this time in the opposite direction, with Soviet Moldavians allowed into Romania for the first time.

For 45 years, since the forcible annexation by the Soviet Union of what was once Romanian Bessarabia, the territory has remained divided.

Relations across the Prut River border were kept to a minimum by both the Soviet and Romanian governments to curb the rise of nationalist claims.

But the fall of the Romanian leader Nicolae Ceausescu last December has sparked a proliferation of cultural groups and publications calling for free movement across the border.

The publications remind Romanians that Bessarabia and northern Bukovina (today part of the Soviet Ukraine) were once Romanian territory.

Seized by Tzarist Russia, Bessarabia became Romanian once again in 1918 only to be incorporated into the Soviet Union in 1945 as the Soviet Republic of Moldavia. Officially Moscow and Bucharest favor allowing more autonomy to the territory but are opposed to any reunification.

The Romanian foreign ministry has insisted on the "civic nature" of Sunday's action.

But many Moldavians interviewed on both sides of the border told an Agence France-Presse correspondent they wanted rapid reunification of the territory. "This land belongs to us and to our parents," said a 53-year-old woman in Ungeny, holding a bunch of tulips. Some said they hoped to see a reunited Moldavia within two to four years.

Romanians note that when Mircea Snegur was elected first secretary of the Moldavian Soviet his first act was to adopt Romanian colors for the republic's flag.

"It is safe to say that the majority of the population wants freedom of movement across the border," said Vitaly Gorinerioi, 37, head of a cooperative farm in Soviet Moldavia. He added: "The young people are for immediate reunification, but the older folks are more moderate."

Margaritescu on Ties With U.S., MFN Status

AU0805080890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0623 GMT 8 May 90

["Economy: The Romanian-U.S. Relations Under the Sign of Renewal"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/5/1990—Recently come back from the United States, the Romanian minister of foreign trade, Mr. Alexandru Margaritescu, shows that, among the priorities evinced during his dialogue with U.S. authorities, are the regaining of the trading facilities lost during the dictatorship like the most-favoured-nation [MFN] clause, and Romania's inclusion in the list of countries benefiting by custom duties exemption contained in the U.S. generalized scheme of preferences for the developing countries. In view is also Romania's inclusion in the list of the corporation of private investment abroad which guarantees U.S. investment abroad as well as the reinstatement of Romania's access to the export credit programmes guaranteed by the U.S. Government (the Export-Import Bank and Commodity Credit Corporation).

As the Romanian minister specifies, his talks with U.S. Government members showed that Romania would be again granted the most-favoured-nation clause after the May 20 elections, taking the present trade agreement expiring in August 1990 as a basis, and that meanwhile another trade agreement and an accord on the mutual encouragement and protection of investment would be negotiated so as to reflect the changes occurred in the political and economic life of Romania.

NLP's Campeanu U.S. Visit Reviewed

AU0405190690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1739 GMT 4 May 90

["Interviews Statements—Radu Campeanu: Such Visits Are Extremely Necessary"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/5/1990—I was able fulfill every goal I had in mind before leaving for the States and I think my visit was very productive as I could meet highly interesting people to whom I hope I conveyed an image of today's Romania, which is as close to reality as possible, said Radu Campeanu, chairman of the National Liberal Party [NLP] and that party's presidential candidate, to a ROMPRES reporter upon his return from the U.S.A. He said he had had talks with an American delegation of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe who gave him every assurance of their participation as observers in the elections in Romania. He also said he had already contacted the Foreign Ministry in connection with the presence of 60 people in the elections. He also met Deputy Woolf, chairman of the Human Rights Commission in the House of Representatives, a friend of Romania and a connoisseur of Romanian realities, who has a flag of the revolution, and who said that after his talks with the Romanian politician he would set forth a resolution asking the U.S. Governmen not to recognize the Romanian Government unless elections were fair.

At the Department of State Mr. Campeanu met the director for Eastern Europe, as Secretary Baker was absent. He informed him of his concern over the destabilizing climate on the eve of elections, which, he said, was greater than his worry over the falsification of the May 20 elections. During their talk, Mr. Campeanu said, we agreed that a U.S. Government commission should come to Romania four or five days before the elections to make sure that pre-electoral atmosphere was fit for free elections. The Americans, Mr. Campeanu said, want to see fair elections on May 20.

The Romanians do not need conferences, Mr. Campeanu said to the members of the commission offering aid for the democratization of East-European countries and spent much money on useless actions—conferences, symposia, meetings—instead of distributing the money to "the bearers of democracy" of the respective countries.

Mr. Campeanu said he also had an extremely interesting interview with Senator Robert Dole, whom he invited to lead a government commission to travel to Romania. During the visit, the director general of the Office Guaranteeing American Investment Abroad, informed the Romanian guest of the American system of protecting U.S. investors showing that complex studies

started being worked out for Romania as many businessmen had shown interest in cooperation with Romania.

The NLP chairman also had a series of contacts at the U.S. National Security Council and interviews with directors of U.S. newspapers and editors of major U.S. publications and granted interviews to the BBC, the Voice of America, and Radio Free Europe.

Agriculture, Food Industry Official Visits U.S.

AU0405200690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1934 GMT 4 May 90

["Romania in the World—U.S. Visit by Romanian Government Delegation"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/5/1990—Victor Surdu, minister secretary of state, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry head of the Romanian Government delegation now visiting the United States, met with Senator Robert Dole.

He presented the economic situation in Romania after revolution, with reference especially to agriculture and the steps taken by Romania's Provisional Government for its recovery, the leasing to private producers of over three million hectares of arable land (32 per cent of the total area), the writing off of the debts to the state of all farm and service units, the price rise with farm produce, the liberalization through the elimination of the Stalinist-type planning, the sale in the free market of the private producers' produce at variable prices in keeping with the demand and offer, the delivery to individual producers of the tractors, seedling, animals needed for their production.

He insisted that the most favored nation clause be granted to the Romanian people that for 40 years was deprived of food, medicine, decent living conditions.

The Romanian stressed that the clause should be granted in token of recognition of the Romanian people's merits, and not pending on the election returns. The clause is not granted to a party or politician, but to the free Romanian nation that will decide by itself its future development path.

Senator Robert Dole appreciated the approach as fair and volunteered his unconditional assistance in the attainment of that target.

UN Development Administrator Draper Visits

Arrives 4 May

AU0405200790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1804 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/5/1990—Answering an invitation of the Romanian Government, William Draper, United Nations Development Programme [UNDP] administrator, arrived in Bucharest on Friday 4 May.

On his arrival at the Otopeni Airport, William Draper told the press that the UNDP had a good programme for Romania and that a new one was being prepared to set the basis for cooperation in education, health and other social areas, adding that he was looking forward to his meetings with Romania's leadership, as well as with officials and representatives of political parties and groups.

Received by Iliescu

AU0505150990 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 0800 GMT 5 May 90

[Text] Mr. Ion Iliescu, president of the Provisional National Unity Council [PNUC], today received UN Development Program Administrator William Draper, who is visiting our country at the invitation of the government.

This UN body is the most important multifaceted source for granting assistance to developing countries.

After the meeting, Mr. Draper was invited to visit some projects under way in Romania with UN financial assistance and to conduct talks with specialists in the economic and financial areas, in order to assist Romania in achieving a stable economy.

During his talks with the PNUC president, the two sides tackled questions of developing relations and cooperation between Romania and the UN Development Program.

Further on Talks

AU0605153690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1451 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 6/5/1990—The president of the Provisional National Unity Council, Ion Iliescu, had a talk, Saturday [5 May] morning, with the administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), William Draper III who is visiting our country at the invitation of the government, on the growing relationship and cooperation between Romania and the UNDP.

The UNDP administrator was invited to see investment projects that are being carried on in Romania with UN financial assistance, and talk with economic and financial experts to aid Romania to build a healthy economy.

After his meeting with the president of the Provisional National Unity Council, William Draper told the Romanian press that they had discussed private initiative and its promotion—in which cooperation between Romania and UNDP will hold a major role—as well as freedom of the press and of opinion. Showing that he intended to meet as many Romanian officials and political party

leaders as possible, William Draper said he was pleased to see democracy in action in a young and dynamic country.

Friday [4 may] afternoon, the UNDP administrator had discussions also with Deputy Prime Minister Mihai Draganescu and Foreign Affairs Minister Sergiu Celac.

ADEVARUL on French Deputies, Local Crowds

AU0405185090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1619 GMT 4 May 90

["Agora: Romania Is Not an Oversea Department of France"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/5/1990—"Incredible and Inadmissible". This is how the independent Bucharest daily ADEVARUL qualifies the gesture of the two French parliamentarians, Jean-Claude Mignon and Jean-Michel Ferrand, who "scandalously violating the most elementary usage of interstate relations had no scruples about requesting neither more nor less than...the resignation of the Romanian Government" while addressing the demonstrators in University Square.

In a commentary in its today's issue, Writer Dumitru Tinu shows, among other things: The representatives of the Assembly for the Republic of France can certainly demand at home anybody's resignation, even the resignation of their own government. It is more than strange, it is unimaginable that in 1990's Europe representatives of a foreign political grouping incite to overthrowing a legally formed government in another country. Romania is not an oversea department of France. The two deputies' confusion shows in fact a colonial-type mentality. And this is all the more regrettable as the two bear the emblem of the Parliament of France, a country with which Romania has been linked by an undeniable and traditional friendship.

Romanian Premier Petre Roman had a telephone conversation on this matter with the president of the French National Assembly, Mr. Laurent Fabius, who told him the two parliamentarians were assigned no mission of the kind by that forum.

The author of the article in ADEVARUL contacted the spokesman for the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs who stated that the respective parliamentarians' statement involved nobody else but them.

Romania Joins Eutelsat; To Join Intelsat Soon

AU0405145290 Paris AFP in English 1411 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Paris, May 4 (AFP)—Romania has become the 28th country to join the European satellite telecommunications organisation Eutelsat and Hungary and Czechoslovakia are expected to follow shortly, Eutelsat's director said here.

Romania's entry was approved unanimously by member countries on Thursday [3 May] and Posts and Telecommunications Minister Stelian Pintelie signed an agreement the same day, Eutelsat director general Jean Grenier told a press conference.

Romania will also next week sign in Washington an agreement to join Intelsat, the international satellite telecommunications organisation, moves which demonstrated "our current and future choices," Mr. Pintelie said.

"Let it be said that we were among the founder members of Intersputnik (the Soviet satellite telecommunications organisation) but never built a reception station for this network in our country."

Its entry into Eutelsat will mean that Romania, probably from the beginning of next year, will have access to the Eutelsat-1 satellite and its successors for telephone links with France, West Germany, the Netherlands, Britain, Sweden and Spain.

It will also be able to receive and transmit television broadcasts.

Romania's telephone network currently has some 2.3 million lines, but Bucharest is planning to boost this by between 300,000 and 400,000 lines a year, Mr. Pintelie said.

"Our real need over the next 25 years will be some 12 million lines."

The programme is expected to cost some 100 to 150 million dollars, plus up to 100 million dollars for equipment purchased abroad, and Bucharest is already holding talks with several European companies, although companies from Japan and South Korea have also put in bids.

CDU Continues To Lead in Croatian Elections

LD0705162590 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1451 GMT 7 May 90

[Excerpts] Zagreb, 7 May (TANJUG)—Initial unofficial and incomplete results of the 6 May second round of the multiparty elections in the Socialist Republic of Croatia indicate that the Croatian Democratic Union [Hrvatska Demokratska Zajednica—CDU] continues to lead and has prospects of winning an absolute majority in the Sociopolitical Chamber and the Chamber of Municipalities of the Socialist Republic of Croatia Assembly. Candidates of the Croat League of Communists [LC]-Party of Democratic Change have prospects of confirming their leadership in the constituencies in which they were in the lead in the first round, which by all accounts will mean that this party will be a very solid opposition in the Socialist Republic of Croatia Assembly.

According to a survey so far of incomplete information from 52 of the total of 111 constituencies in the second round of voting for seats in the two Assembly chambers, CDU candidates are currently in the lead in 33 constituencies, while Croat LC-Party of Democratic Change candidates are leading in 11 constituencies, and in a further two the joint candidate of the Croat LC-Party of Democratic Change and the Alliance of Socialists of Croatia is in the lead.

The second round of the elections, according to the currently available incomplete information, will not, it appears, strengthen in any major way the positions of most of the other parties. At present, in fact, only one candidate each from the Croatian Christian Democratic Party, the Serbian Democratic Party and the Social-Democratic Party of Croatia and two candidates from the Croatian Democratic Party—one of whom has already won his seat—are in the lead. [passage omitted]

New information on the results in the second round of the elections in the Socialist Republic of Croatia will be anounced officially late this evening at a news conference of the republican electoral commission in the Zagreb Grand Fair press center.

No 'Major' Irregularities

LD0705232290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1634 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Zagreb, 7 May (TANJUG)—At a 7 May news conference in the Croat Electoral Commission headquarters, journalists were informed of complaints about and shortcomings observed in the second round of voting in the multiparty elections for the Croat Assembly's Sociopolitical Chamber and the Chamber of Municipalities.

In view of what was said, there was no evidence of any major irregularity, but in some wards there were again problems with unavailable registers. In two electoral wards in the Tresnjevka municipality of Zagreb, ballot papers got mixed up. This was rectified immediately in one of the wards, while in the other the voting will have to be repeated. Details were also given about the 6 May break-in in the Josip Kras primary school—one of the polling stations—which delayed the start of voting. A similar incident occurred in Split, when two young men under the influence of alcohol broke into a polling station, where they destroyed electoral documents and took down a flag. They were detained soon after. In a polling station in Cakovec, Tito's picture was taken down from the wall, but another one was promptly put up.

Asked if a foreign delegation attended the elections on 6 and 7 May as an observer, the electoral commission representative said that the U.S. ambassador had expressed a desire to visit some of the polling stations in Zagreb, which he was allowed to do.

Asked by a foreign journalist about the regularity of the election results in the Zagreb municipality of Trnje, where Ivica Racan was one of the candidates, the electoral commission representative was adamant that the commission had received no complaint about the irregularity or legitimacy of elections in that particular ward.

Results in 95 of 111 Wards

LD0705231590 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2103 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Zagreb, 7 May (TANJUG)—Croat Electoral Commission Chairman Milko Gajski announced the results on 7 May of the second round of voting in the elections for the Croat Assembly's Sociopolitical Chamber and Chamber of Municipalites in 95 out of the total of 111 electoral wards. The election of 29 new deputies was confirmed.

Out of 19 newly elected representatives in the Chamber of Municipalites, nine are from the Croat Democratic Union [Hrvatska Demokratska Zajednica] [CDU]; seven from the Croat League of Communists-Party of Democratic Changes [SKH-Stranka Demokratskih Promjena] [SKH-SDP]; one is the joint representative of the SKH-SDP, the Alliance of Socialists [Savez Socijalista], the Youth Federation [Savez Omladine] and the SUBNOR [Federation of War Veterans' Association]; and the Croat Democratic Party [Hrvatska Demokratska Stranka] and the Social Democratic Party of Croatia [Socijaldemokratska Stranka Hrvtske] have one representative each.

Of the 10 newly elected representatives in the Sociopolitical Chamber of the Croat Assembly, nine are from the CDU and one from the SKH-SDP.

The latest results were announced shortly before the polling stations closed in elections to the Croat Assembly's largest chamber—the Chamber of Associated Labor. According to an electoral commission representative, more comprehensive results of voting for all three Assembly chambers will be officially announced at about 1400 [1200 GMT] on 8 May.

Further on Results

LD0805074490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2221 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Zagreb, 7 May (TANJUG)—In addition to six previously named new representatives elected in the second round of voting for the Croat Assembly's Chamber of Municipalities, the republic's electoral commission this evening announced final results from another 13 electoral wards.

Andrija Buljevic, the Social Democratic Party of Croatia [Socijaldemokratska Stranka Hrvatske—SDSH] was elected in Brac; Slavko Degoricija, Croat Democratic Union [Hrvatska Demokratska Zajednica—CDU] in Zagreb-Centar; Josip Djugum, CDU, in Zagreb-Crnomerec ward; Miroslav Zailac, Croat League of Communists-Party of Democratic Change and the Socialist Alliance of Croatia [SKH-SDP and SSH], in Daruvar; Savan Grabundija, SKH-SDP, SSOH [Socialist Youth Federation of Croatia] and SUBNOR [War Veterans' Organization] in Dvor; Renato Molnar, CDU, in Ludberg; Ante Karic, CDU, in Zagreb-Maksimir; Miroslav Cicek, CDU, in Nasice; Petar Ticic, CDU, in Pag; Antun Abramovic, CDU, in Zagreb-Pescenica; Gordana Grbic, SKH-SDP, in Zagreb-Trnje; Branko Cep, CDU, in Varazdin; and Ivan Dujmovic, CDU, in Samohor.

The following have won seats in the Croat Assembly's Sociopolitical Chamber: Vinko Buljan, CDU, in Nasice; Bozidar Petrac, CDU, in Zagreb-Centar; Gordana Turic, CDU, in Zagreb-Crnomerec; Ivan Milas, CDU, in Zagreb-Pescenica; Ivica Racan, SKH-SDP, in Zagreb-Trnje; Zvonimir Gajsak, CDU, in Samobor; Franjo Vrucina, CDU, in Varazdin One; Alojz Markac, CDU, in Varazdin Two; and Petar Sale, CDU, in Zadar.

Results in Zagreb Elections

LD0705154790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1313 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Zagreb, 7 May (TANJUG)—The newly elected Sociopolitical Chamber and Chamber of Municipalities of the Zagreb City Assembly will, in practical terms, be made up of the representatives of a single party. In two rounds, out of the 55 deputies of the Chamber of Municipalities elected so far, only four are representatives of the Croat League of Communists-Party of Democratic Change, while in the Sociopolitical Chamber, out of the 34 deputies known so far, one is from the Croat League of Communists-Party of Democratic Change. All the other deputies are from the Croatian Democratic Union [Hrvatska Demolkratska Zajednica - CDU]. The Chamber of Municipalities has a total of 56 deputies, while the Sociopolitical Chamber has 34.

In the three constituencies, only the first round of voting has taken place, while the second round is scheduled for 14 days from now.

This information was provided by Zagreb Electoral Commission Chairman Berislav Studak.

There was about a 70-percent turnout in the second round of voting in the elections, which is less than 14 days before, when about 84 percent of those on the electoral register voted.

Elections for deputies in the Chamber of Associated Labor of the Zagreb City Assembly, which is comprised of 14 municipalities, are under way on 7 May. The results most probably will be known on 8 May.

CDC's Tudjman Discusses Victory, Plans

AU0705192690 Zagreb VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 29, 30 Apr, 1, 2 May 90 p 7

[Interview with Croatian Democratic Community (CDC) President Franjo Tudjman by Mladen Plese and Zoran Daskalovic; place and date not given: "Why Are We Winning and What Are the Intentions of the CDC"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [VJESNIK] Some people have remarked that democratic processes in Croatia will be weakened and the democratic scene impoverished because only two parties remain on the political scene.

[Tudjman] Only politically immature people can say something like that. The Croatian Democratic Community [CDC] will have the socialist bloc as its opposition, because communists and socialists will get about 20 percent of the votes, and therefore an equal percentage of candidates. So, why would this two-party composition of the Assembly that we will have be undemocratic? Let us look at the other examples throughout the world. No kind of system, no kind of parliamentary democracy, is ideal, but the two-party composition is still the best. It is the most democratic and the most rational. Having one party in power and another in opposition to control it has so far shown to be the most appropriate way. We in the CDC are resolute not to tolerate any monopoly or narrow-mindedness within our party. We are in favor of having different currents within the party that would fight for supremacy, which is the case with all big parties in the West. I would rather have two main parties and possibly a third one as a corrective, but by no means some 30 parties, because this way time is not wasted and because this is the most economical way.

[VJESNIK] So far, you have not worked as a party, but as a community or a movement—Are you going be transformed into a party soon?

[Tudjman] Our program is not a narrow party program. We will try to remain a party based upon the program we have set up and with the intention of really having democratic debates within that party concerning paths of development. [passage omitted]

When in power, we will not implement the party program, but the policy of solving vital issues concerning the Croatian people as a whole. Although we can form a one-party government, we are not going to do that. It will be a government of all citizens in Croatia. We have offered our hand to the Serbian population and to all

others. There will be no preferences regarding religion; we will create conditions for a normal coexistence by all sections of society in Croatia. We think that we will enjoy the support of Croats in the homeland as well as those outside it, particularly the support of the members of the Croat population who have left during their most active years, people who want to return to their homeland bringing the capital they would like to invest in the development of Croatia, of course, depending on who holds sovereign power in Croatia. [passage omitted]

[VJESNIK] Will the head count according to national affiliation not provoke certain fear, anxiety, and uncertainty among the Serbian population?

[Tudjman] Concerning fears of the Serbian population, they are being heightened by hegemonic and unitarian circles. I can tell you that an increasing number of Serbs are joining the CDC and doing so not as single individuals; entire hamlets voted for the CDC at the elections. Some intellectuals call us on the phone, and Simo Dubajic has sent us congratulations. Therefore, the Serbian population is realizing that only the CDC is really—that is not only in words—ready to guarantee civil and ethnic national rights not only to Serbian, but also to any other population living in Croatia and that only the CDC can ensure a better life for this population. Such an abnormal relationship that prevented the development of special national institutions on the one hand, but favored some other nationalities in certain services and institutions of power on the other created an abnormal situation. [passage omitted]

[VJESNIK] Can you tell us whether some people's fear that they may lose their jobs as a consequence of announced changes in governmental institutions and public services is justified?

[Tudjman] I resolutely assert that we will exclude all revenge. However, it is only normal even in the most democratic countries that after one party wins there are some changes in public structures. Therefore, it would not be normal for members of the League of Communists to continue performing public functions. However, we are going to solve that problem in a democratic way. Being aware of how sensitive the issue is in our country, we will approach it in a delicate way, preventing excess situations, particularly revenge. [passage omitted]

[VJESNIK] How do you assess the world public's present attitude toward the result of the Croatian elections and, particularly, reaction of the world press?

[Tudjman] Unfortunately, we are rather dissatisfied, because they are under the influence of hegemonic and unitarianist tendencies that consider any Croatian spirit [hrvatstvo] to be Ustasha-like, to be the renewal of the Independent State of Croatia [Croatian wartime puppet state], to be fascism. [passage omitted]

We know that due to the unification of Germany and the fact that it is going to become the main European power, calculations are being made again about the need for a kind of small ententes in Europe—just as there had existed between the two wars—which could play a certain political role. However, that is completely unrealistic. Just as the old Yugoslavia had no real strength against German imperialism, I consider all similar calculations that are appearing now to be just as unrealistic. We have clearly said that Yugoslavia can survive only as a confederation, as an alliance of states. From the point of view of the Croatian people, what has been done to Croatia since 1918 by taking away eight to 25 percent of its national revenue is unacceptable. This has made the Croatian people feel economically and demographically threatened. Therefore, in today's world that, it is true, is nearing an economic, technological, civilizational, and political integration more and more, but at the same time reaching a greater national individuality, one cannot impose his will on small peoples. No world power can impose its will on us any longer. It is high time the Croatian people secured their existence and sovereignty in this respect to a greater extent than has been done to date. Conditions have been created for it to do so. We are in favor of becoming a democratic country after the model of the free Western world, but that does not mean that we will simply be connected to West Europe and America. We are aware of our geopolitical position and of the existence of East Europe. Therefore, we will develop normal relations with both these spheres of interest. We will remain a reality. We will not be anybody's clients, but carry out an independent policy that is in the interest of the Croatian people and in conformity with international relations.

Italian Aspirations About Istria

[VJESNIK] How can you explain the fact that a section of the world press first showed its approval of the democratic processes in Croatia, but now, after the elections, suddenly changed its mind?

[Tudjman] There are two key reasons. The first reason is the changes in Europe and the fact that Ante Markovic's program of reform and democratization has offered a certain hope that Yugoslavia may be able to survive and that on the basis of that erroneous assumption one may observe Yugoslavia from an American angle. As concerns the Italian press, we must say here that its great inclination toward continuing that Italian policy that sought joint interests with Belgrade against Croatia can be felt. [passage omitted]

In the way the Italian press has been writing, one could feel certain aspirations toward Istria. Since it can see that the CDC has posed the questions of the Croatian people's sovereignty and the defense of their existence, as well as its resoluteness to carry out an independent policy, that policy is now considered to be opting for a continuation of the Independent State of Croatia. When it suited it, Italy supported the Ustasha movement that was turned toward breaking Yugoslavia apart and then used it to occupy a large part of Dalmatia. No world power can impose its will on us any longer.

[VJESNIK] Can the reasons for the world press to change its attitude toward Croatia be sought in the certain concern on the part of some world political circles about the announced possible rearrangement of borders within Yugoslavia? We know that some prominent personalities, such as [Italian Foreign Minister Gianni] de Michelis, [Austrian Chancellor Franz] Vranitzky, and [U.S. Assistant Secretary of State] Lawrence Eagleburger expressed rather negative opinions about these tendencies.

[Tudjman] I hope we do not suffer from historical blindness, not to be able to see that the borders between Bosnia-Hercegovina and Croatia are renewed borders of territories in Europe occupied by an Asian power. Moreover, these are the times when all colonial borders of European imperial powers in Asia and Africa have been erased. Mr. Eagleburger is obviously under the influence of some oversimplified views of the Yugoslav situation. I think that this is one-sided. The assertion that Bosnia-Hercegovina is the same to Croatia as East Germany is to West Germany is interesting. That can be even considered to be true from a world, geopolitical perspective. However, it is not completely true, and the fact that about 30 percent of the population of East Germany does not consist of another nationality, as Bosnia-Hercegovina does, is not the only reason.

The Modalities of Coexistence

[VJESNIK] Do you think that it is possible to change borders within Yugoslavia without causing new, even more dangerous conflicts?

[Tudjman] I am convinced that reason will yet prevail in Croatia and Serbia, despite the prevailing Serbian political views that cannot conceive Yugoslavia in any other way than as an expanded Serbia. Almost a half-century under a one-party ideology and rule did not bridge all the differences, so it is better to become aware of the truth and create a confederation, or, perhaps it may be better for all these peoples to join Europe as independent entities. Scandinavization was the result of struggles for domination in Scandinavia that lasted until the beginning of this century, so why there should not be a Scandinavization of this part of Europe?.

[VJESNIK] Will these agreements between Croatia and Serbia consider the interests of peoples living in Bosnia-Hercegovina? Will it be made possible for them to decide about their future themselves? What will happen in case they decide to live in an independent state within the present borders?

[Tudjman] We are of the opinion that naturally, and as regards economy and communications, Bosnia-Hercegovina and Croatia form such a whole, that they simply cannot exist without each other. However, our conviction is that the people in Bosnia-Hercegovina should decide for themselves by referendum. We are not against their deciding to live in an independent state, but even if they did, it would certainly become a union within a confederation, because everything points in that direction. [passage omitted]

[VJESNIK] During the election campaign, you said that as the first thing you are going to change the Constitution.

[Tudjman] In any case, we no longer want the present Constitution, which had to regulate everything. We want to have a constitution of the kind that countries of the free world have, which would define the basic principles of life and the sovereignty of the people and citizens, and leave all the rest to practice. After all, it is well known that where there are too many things written down in constitutions and paragraphs, there is the least freedom.

[VJESNIK] What will be your place in the future organization of power?

[Tudjman] Well, probably in the Presidency of the republic.

[VJESNIK] After he was elected Slovene president, Milan Kucan temporarily suspended his party affiliation. What do you think about that?

[Tudjman] He had to do so because he is member of the communist party that lost the elections and had to go into opposition. He was elected because that communist party, in fact, became social democratic. Not only was it more democratic than before, but it was also linked to the essential interests of the Slovene people in the national sense of the word. However, the majority of the Slovene people did not vote for the communist party. I think that the situation in Croatia is different and that there will be no need to do anything like that here. [passage omitted]

Loncar Set To Address Federal Chamber Session

LD0805092290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0820 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Belgrade, 8 May (TANJUG)—The Assembly debate on the draft amendments to the SFRY Constitution, which began today, should be completed by 16 May, when a session of the Yugoslav Assembly Federal Chamber is scheduled, at which this document should be "verified" and passed to the assemblies of the republics and provinces for agreement on it to be reached.

It is envisioned that Federal Foreign Affairs Secretary Budimir Loncar will, at this session of the Federal Chamber, inform delegates of the SFRY's current foreign political activity. During the two-day Assembly chamber session, delegates will have to "master" an extensive agenda containing as many as 32 items.

It is obvious that a great deal of "material" has accumulated in this Assembly chamber, which should be cleared before the arrival of party delegates in the Yugoslav Assembly.

Slovenian Parliament Meeting Incomplete

LD0805082290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0705 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Ljubljana, May 8 (TANJUG)—The marathon constitutive meeting of the new parliament of the Yugoslav Republic of Slovenia ended quite unsuccessfully early this morning at around 0400, after a 14-hour working session, since only the socio-political chamber and municipalities chamber succeeded in electing their leadership.

Candidate of the ruling coalition, Demos, Ludvik Toplak was elected president of the socio-political chamber while Ivan Bizjak was elected president of the municipalities' chamber.

Demos, a coalition of six non-communist parties, won 126 of the 240 seats in parliament in the April elections.

The exhausted delegates of the associated labor chamber, who adjourned the meeting, will have to elect their leadership prior to or after the joint session of all three chambers of parliament scheduled for Wednesday [9 May]. At this meeting, the new president and members of the presidency of the Republic of Slovenia will also take oath before the delegates, which should have been done at the recently ended meeting.

Macedonian SKM-PDP wants LCY CC Resignation

LD0705181690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1111 GMT 7 May 90

[Excerpt] Skoplje, 7 May (TANJUG)—The members of the League of Communist of Yugoslavia [LCY] Central Committee [CC] from the Macedonian League of Communist [LC]-Party for Democratic transformation [Partija za Demokratski Preobrazaj—SKM-PDP] will insist at the 8 May session of the LCY CC on its transformation into a working and consultative meeting, and that such a meeting be chaired by a working presidium rather than the members of the LCY CC, whose resignation is demanded, and that the agenda include only the latest initiatives by the LCY's constituent parts for resolving the crisis. The SKM-PDP demands that a clear agreement be reached whereby the definitive decision about the way to resolve the crisis in the LCY can only be made by a consensus of all its constituent parts.

Unless these commitments of the SKM-PDP CC are adopted the LCY CC, members from the SKM will not take part in further work of this session. These demands were adopted at today's session of the SKM-PDP CC Presidium, in whose work the members of the LCY CC from the SKM also took part.

In the debate, it was judged that by convening this session the remains of the LCY CC Presidium continued their practice of ignoring the stands of whole republican organizations of the LCY as well as the fact that the LCY CC cannot make valid decisions without the presence of members from all the constituent LCY parts.

By completely ignoring the demands by the SKM-PDP and other parts of the LCY for its resignation, this part of the Presidium, it was said in the debate, is again scheduling a session of the LCY CC at which, according to its conception, the letter [the letter calling on the Communists of the republican organizations to bypass their republican leaderships] should be discussed first and the initiatives for solving the crisis in the LCY only afterward. The SKM-PDP Presidium expresses once again its disagreement with such a way of organizing the LCY CC's sessions, as it judges that the necessary conditions for a successful outcome of the scheduled session have not been created yet. Nonetheless, it was concluded that the members of the LCY CC from the SKM-PDP would attend the session, but only to acquaint those present with the authentic stands of the SKM-PDP and to give support to the initiatives of the LC Committee in the Yugoslav Peoples' Army and the Bosnia-Hercegovina LC CC for resolving the crisis in the LCY, the ones that come closest to the SKM-PDP's commitments [passage omitted]

LCY Plenum Begins; Agenda Not Yet Adopted

AU0805101690 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0900 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] [Announcer] The 31st session of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] Central Committee [CC], which has so far been postponed four times, is under way in Belgrade. Here is Momcilo Boskovic with the latest information from the Sava center:

[Boskovic] Although almost a whole hour has gone by since LCY CC Presidium President Milan Pancevski opened the 31st session of the depleted CC, the agenda has still not been adopted. It is not known whether this will be a legitimate session, at which decisions will be made, or whether it will be of a solely consultative and working character, which is something that is being insisted upon by Petar Gosev, CC Presidium president of the League of Communists of Macedonia, and members of the republic's CC.

It is now essential for all of us to think with cool heads and open hearts, Stevan Mirkovic said. This state and agony, in which our League of Communists has recently found itself, should be ended as soon as possible, Ali Sukrija thought.

Milo Djukanovic is now at the rostrum. This is all from the Sava center.

Further on Agenda

LD0805094790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0940 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Belgrade, 8 May (TANJUG)—The beginning of the 8 May session of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] Central Committee [CC], which is

being held in the Sava Center in Belgrade, was devoted to efforts to establish the plenum's agenda.

Members have faced two proposals, one put forward by the LCY CC Presidium, and another in the name of the Macedonian League of Communists CC, by Tito Petkovski.

The LCY CC Presidium proposed that the plenum make its views known on the initiatives for concluding the 14th LCY Extraordinary Congress and the preparations for the congress of the renewal of the LCY.

Petkovski, however, believes that the plenum, being only a partial one, is not in a position to adopt any decisions. In this connection, he proposed that today's session have a working and consultative character, that a working presidium be elected, that the LCY CC Presidium resign, and that there be no discussion of the letter of the 30th session of the LCY CC that was sent to the LCY membership.

Milosevic's Inspection 'In Line' With Rules

AU0705120590 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 4 May 90 p 1

[D. Pusonjic report: "Guard According to the Rules"]

[Excerpt] Belgrade—The Yugoslav People's Army honor guard, which was inspected by Presidency President Slobodan Milosevic on Serbian statehood day on 28 March this year in front of the Monument to the Unknown Soldier on Mount Avala, was in line with the SFRY Armed Forces rules of conduct concerning the laying of wreaths and flowers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The same would have been done had the president of some other republic laid a wreath at this monument on the occasion of a holiday of their "own" republic.

This was the essence of the reply that the Federal Executive Council submitted to the SFRY Assembly on 3 May in answer to a question by Delegate Viktorija Potocnik. In reply to a question from Joze Susnelj on how the state border of the SFRY is legally defined, it was said that the law on service in the Armed Forces does not define the term of the state border, but the Army in the border outside inhabited places and border crossings controls the movement of people to prevent anyone from illegally crossing the state border. [passage omitted]

Serbian Presidency Discusses Ties With Israel

LD0705215990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1550 GMT 7 May 90

[Summary] Belgrade, 7 May (TANJUG)—The Socialist Republic [SR] of Serbia Presidency met today with its president, Slobodan Milosevic, in the chair to discuss a number of issues including the situation in the republic's legislature. It was stressed that recent amendments to the republic's constitution had helped to introduce a comprehensive legislative system throughout the republic.

"The SR of Serbia Presidency today also discussed relations between the SFRY and Israel with special reference to Serbia's role in the development of political, economic, cultural, and information links with Israel and with the organization of Yugoslav emigrants in that country. The Presidency is of the view that it is in the interest of both Yugoslavia and of the work toward a peaceful resolution of the state of crisis in the Middle East to intensify efforts to develop bilateral cooperation with Israel. The restoration of diplomatic relations between the two countries is a vital prerequisite for continuing the existing trend toward expanding relations in various spheres to mutual advantage. The Presidency endorsed a report on preparations for Serbia Week in Israel. The Presidency also considered a report on the work of the state security service in 1989 and other issues within the Presidency's competence."